















Johnson, R.E.

1969 (Part)

Catalogue

#701-872

Oregon

Idaho

Montana

Canada

Wyo.

(Alaska, Colo.)



# Catalog

R.E. Johnson

0.2 mi. e. of Mt. McLoughlin, 9000 ft, Jackson Co., Oregon

June 17, 1969

701 ♀ Rosy Finch - L      5x5 ovary      largest ovum 2mm      skull os.      28.0

0.2 mi. e. & 0.2 mi. s. of Mt. McLoughlin, 8800 ft, Jackson Co., Oregon

June 17, 1969

702 ♂ Rosy Finch - L      testes 7x10mm      skull os.      25.5  
(trace of intermediacy with dawsoni, i.e. some brown in gray of Lt. side of head)

1.3 mi. e. & 0.2 mi. n. of Seven Devils Lake, 7300 ft, Idaho Co., Idaho

June 25, 1969

703 ♀ Rosy Finch      ovary 7x4mm      largest ovum 1.5mm      brood patch slightly edematized      buccal sacs empty      skull os.      25.5

704 ♂ Rosy Finch      testes 9x7mm      buccal sacs empty      skull os.      27.0

705 ♂ Rosy Finch      testes 7x6mm      buccal sacs full      skull os.      27.0

706 ♂ Rosy Finch      testes 10x8mm      buccal sacs empty      skull os.      25.5

707 ♂ Rosy Finch      testes 10x8mm      buccal sacs with trace      skull os.      28.0

708 ♂ Rosy Finch      testes 9x8mm      buccal sacs empty      skull os.      26.5

709 ♀ Rosy Finch      ovary 6x4mm      largest ovum 2mm      brood patch not edematized      buccal sacs empty      skull os.      26.0

710 ♂ Rosy Finch      testes 8x7mm      buccal sacs empty      skull os.      24.5

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~~Journal~~  
Catalog

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1.3 mi. e. and 0.2 mi. n. of Seven Devils Lake, 7300 Ft., Idaho Co., Idaho

June 25, 1969						
711	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 9x7mm	buccal sacs empty	skull os.	27.0
712	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 9x7mm	buccal sacs empty	skull os.	25.0
713	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 10x8mm	buccal sacs empty	skull os.	27.5
714	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 9x7mm	buccal sacs empty	skull os.	26.0
June 26, 1969 (12 noon to 1 PM)						
715	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 11x8mm	buccal sacs empty	skull os.	25.0
716	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 8x8mm	buccal sacs empty	skull os.	25.0
717	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 8x6mm	buccal sacs full	skull os.	25.5
718	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 8x7mm	buccal sacs nearly empty	skull os.	26.5
719	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 10x9mm	buccal sacs empty	skull os.	27.0
720	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 10x7mm	buccal sacs empty	skull os.	27.5
June 26, 1969 (1:30 - 2:00 PM)						
721	♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 6x5mm	largest ovum 1mm brood patch not edematized	buccal sacs empty	skull os. 28.5
722	♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 10x12mm	largest ovum 4mm brood patch slightly edematized	buccal sacs empty	skull os. 28.5

oviduct greatly enlarged (over 16cm long).





# Catalog ~~Journal~~

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R.E. Johnson

1.3 mi. e. & 0.2 mi. n. of Seven Devils Lake, 7300 ft., Idaho Co., Idaho.

June 26, 1969 (1:30 - 2:00 PM)

723	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 10x8mm	buccal sacs empty	skull oz.	25.0
724	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 9x8mm (apparent hybrid between <u>littoralis</u> & <u>atrata</u> - <u>tephrocotis</u> hybrid!)	buccal sacs empty	skull oz.	25.5
725	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 9x7mm	buccal sacs empty	skull oz.	26.0
726	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 6x5mm	buccal sacs empty	skull oz.	26.5
727	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 10x6mm	buccal sacs empty	skull oz.	26.0
728	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 9x7mm	buccal sacs empty	skull oz.	28.0
729	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 11x9mm	buccal sacs empty	skull oz.	26.5
730	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 9x6mm	buccal sacs empty	skull oz.	25.5
731	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 7x4mm	buccal sacs <del>empty</del> half full	skull oz.	25.5

June 26, 1969 (3:00 - 3:30 PM)

732	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 11x8mm	buccal sacs empty	skull oz.	26.5
733	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 10x7mm	buccal sacs empty	skull oz.	27.0
734	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 8x7mm	buccal sacs	skull oz.	26.5
735	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 9x6mm	buccal sacs empty	skull oz.	23.5



# Catalog

R.E-Johnson

1.3 mi. e. & 0.2 mi. n. of Seven Devils Lake, 7300 ft., Idaho Co., Idaho.

June 26, 1969 (3:00 - 3:30 PM)

736	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 6x7mm	buccal sacs empty	skull os.	26.5
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Mosquito Peak, 7800 ft., Missoula Co., Montana

July 5, 1969

737	♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 4x2mm	no ova	no brood patch	buccal sacs empty	skull os.	25.0
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upper bill ~~the~~ covered with growth. Both eyelids swollen; bird heavily infested with feather lice.

Logan Pass, , Glacier National Park, Montana

July 9, 1969

738	♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 8x4mm	largest ova 1mm	brood patch	buccal sacs empty	skull os.	28.0
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July 10, 1969

739	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 9x7mm			buccal sacs nearly empty	skull os.	28.0
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740	♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 5x4mm	largest ova 1mm	brood patch	buccal sacs half full	skull os.	29.0
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741	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 11x7mm			buccal sacs empty	skull os.	27.5
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742	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 8x11mm			buccal sacs full	skull os.	28.0
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743	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 5x2mm			buccal sacs full	skull os.	29.0
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744	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 6x5mm			buccal sacs partly full	skull os.	27.5
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## Catalog

R.E. Johnson

0.3 mi. e. of West McDonald Peak, 9000 ft., Lake Co., Montana; Mission Mtns.

July 13, 1969

745	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 2x3mm		buccal sacs very full	skull os	26.5
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746	♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 6x3mm	largest ovum 1mm	brood patch	buccal sacs very full	skull os.	26.0
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747	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 3x2mm			buccal sacs empty	skull os	26.0
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West McDonald Peak, 9300 ft., Lake Co., Montana, Mission Mtns.

July 13, 1969

748	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 9x7mm			buccal sacs full	skull os	29.0
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0.1 mi. s. & 0.1 mi. w. of West McDonald Peak, 8800 ft., Mission Mtns,Lake Co., Montana

July 13, 1969

749	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 11x8mm			buccal sacs empty	skull os	25.0
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0.2 mi. w. of West McDonald Peak, 8800 ft., Mission Mtns, Lake Co., Montana

July 13, 1969

750	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 3x3mm			buccal sacs empty	skull os	26.5
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0.1 mi. s. & 0.3 mi. e. of Ojibway Peak, 7000 ft., Cabinet Mtns, Lincoln Co., Montana

July 19, 1969

751	♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 6x3mm	largest ovum 1mm	brood patch	buccal sacs empty	skull os	27.0
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0.2 mi. e. & 0.3 mi. n. of Rock Peak, 6800 ft., Cabinet Mtns, Sanders Co., Montana

July 20, 1969

752	♂	Water Pipit	testes 6x4mm				skull os	20.5
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## Catalog

R.E. Johnson  
19690.2 mi. n. of Monument Pk, 9600 ft., Highland Mtns., Madison Co., Montana

July 24, 1969						
			ovary	brood patch	buccal sacs	skull
753	♀	Rosy Finch	7x3mm		empty	os. 24.5
754	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 5x3mm		full	os. 24.5
755	♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 5x3mm	brood patch	buccal sacs empty	skull os. 24.0
756	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 4x3mm		buccal sacs empty	skull os. 26.5

0.1 mi. n. + 0.4 mi. e. of Table Mtn., 9800 ft., Highland Mtns., Silver Bow Co., Montana

July 24, 1969						
			testes		buccal sacs	skull
757	♂	Rosy Finch	3x2mm		partially full	os. 24.0
758	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 2.5x2mm		buccal sacs empty	skull os. 25.0
759	♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 4x3mm	brood patch	buccal sacs empty	skull os. 28.0

0.2 mi. s. + 0.2 mi. e. of Short Pk., 9500 ft., Anaconda Range, Deer Lodge Co., Montana

July 26, 1969						
			ovary	largest ova	brood patch	buccal sacs
760	♀	Rosy Finch	7x4mm	1mm		full
761	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 3x2mm			buccal sacs empty
762	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 2x1.5mm			buccal sacs partially full
763	♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 4x4mm	largest ovum 1mm		buccal sacs empty

26.5



## Catalog

R.E. Johnson  
10.2 mi. s. & 0.2 mi. e. of Short Pk., 9500 ft., Anaconda Range, DeerLodge Co., Montana

July 26, 1969

764	♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 6x3mm	largest ovum 1mm	brood patch	buccal sacs empty	skull os.	28.0
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0.3 mi. s. & 0.6 mi. e. of Short Pk., 9400 ft., Anaconda Range, Deer.Lodge Co., Montana

July 26, 1969

765	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 2x1.5mm			buccal sacs full	skull os.	25.5
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1.1 mi. n. & 0.1 mi. w. of Mount Darrah, 7700 ft., Flathead Range, Alberta-BC border,Canada

July 30, 1969

766	♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 3x2mm		brood patch	buccal sacs empty	skull os.	26.0
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767	♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 3x2mm		brood patch	buccal sacs full	skull os.	25.5
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768	♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 2x1mm		brood patch	buccal sacs full	skull os.	23.5
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769	♂	Rosy Finch	1.5x1mm testes			buccal sacs full	skull os.	26.5
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770	♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 4x2mm (primaries & breast in molt)		brood patch	buccal sacs empty	skull os.	23.5
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771	♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 3x1mm (Shot while feeding # 772 + 773)		brood patch	buccal sacs full	skull os.	26.0
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772	Imma ♀	Rosy Finch					skull unoss	24.0
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773	Imma ♂?	Rosy Finch					skull unoss	25.5
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## Catalog

RE. Johnson

Mount  
 1.1 mi. n. + 0.1 mi. w. of Darrah, 7700 ft., Flathead Range, Alberta-BC border,  
Canada

July 30, 1969

- 774 Imma sex? Rosy Finch skull unoss 27.0
- 775 Imma ♀ Rosy Finch skull unoss 22.5
- 776 Imma ♂ Rosy Finch testes 1x1mm skull os. 26.5
- 777 Imma ♂ Rosy Finch testes 1x1mm skull unoss. 23.0
- 778 Imma ♂ Rosy Finch testes 1x1mm skull unoss. 23.0
- 779 Imma ♀ Rosy Finch ovary 2x1mm skull unoss 23.0
- 780 ♀ Rosy Finch ovary ? brood patch buccal sacs ? skull os 25.0  
 (bird badly damaged by shot, couldn't find ovary)

0.8 mi. s. of Mt. Rae, Misty Range, 8200 ft., Alberta, Canada

August 3, 1969

- 781 ♀ Rosy Finch ovary 4x2mm brood patch buccal sacs partially full skull os. 26.0

0.9 mi. s. + 0.3 mi. e. of Mt. Rae, 9200 ft., Misty Range, Alberta, Canada

August 3, 1969

- 782 ♂ Rosy Finch testes 2x1.5mm buccal sacs very full skull os 28.0

0.3 mi. s. + 0.3 mi. w. of Mt. Rae, 10,000 ft., Misty Range, Alberta, Canada

August 3, 1969

- 783 ♂ Rosy Finch testes 2x1.5mm In molt buccal sacs empty skull os 26.5



## Catalog

R.E. Johnson

0.3 mi. s. & 0.3 mi. w. of Mt. Rae, 10,000 ft., Misty Range, Alberta, Canada.

August 3, 1969

784	Imma ♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 3x1mm	skull unoss	26.0
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Molting: Breast, back

0.8 mi. w. & 1.7 mi. s. of Sun<sup>shine</sup>, 7500 ft., near Banff Nat. Park, BC, Canada

Aug. 7, 1969

785	Imma. sex?	Rosy Finch		skull unoss	23.0
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n. side of Mt. Copeland, 7800 ft., Jordan Range of Monashee Mtns, B.C., Canada

Aug. 14, 1969

786	Juv.	Rosy Finch	(nestling found dead & smelly in snow on surface of glacier below part of headwall on 1st pk west of Mt. Copeland).	<u>Alcoholic</u>	
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787	Imma. ♀?	Rosy Finch		skull unoss	30.0
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788	Imma ♂	Rosy Finch	testes 0.7 x 0.5 mm	skull unoss	27.5
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789	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 1x1mm	buccal sat empty	skull oss	30.0
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790	Imma ♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 3x1	skull unoss	28.0
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791	Imma ♂	Rosy Finch	testes 1x1mm	skull unoss	29.0
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792	Imma. ♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 2x1mm	skull unoss	28.0
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0.2 mi. s. of Meadow Mtn., 8000 ft., Slokan Range of Selkirk Mtns, B.C., Canada

Aug. 17, 1969

793	♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 2x1mm	buccal sat empty	skull oss	24.5 grams
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## Catalog

R.E. Johnson

0.4 mi. s. of Meadow Mtn., 7800 ft., Slokan Range of Selkirk Mtns, B.C., Canada

Aug. 17, 1969

794	♂	Horned Lark	testes 1.5 x 1 mm	skull or	36.5
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0.1 mi. e. of Meadow Mtn., 8000 ft., Slokan Range of Selkirk Mtns, B.C., Canada

Aug. 17, 1969

795	♂	White-tailed Ptarmigan	testes 5 x 4 mm		
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796	♂	White-tailed Ptarmigan	testes 5 x 3 mm		
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0.1 mi. w. of Snow Mtn., 8400 ft., Okanagan Range, B.C., Canada

Aug. 23, 1969

797	?	Water Pipit		skulls single layered	22.0
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798	?	Water Pipit		" " "	20.5
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799	?	Water Pipit		" " "	18.5
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800	?	Water Pipit		" " "	18.5
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0.4 mi. s. & 1.0 mi. e. of Snowy Mtn., 7500 ft., Okanagan Range, B.C., Canada

Aug. 23, 1969

801	♂	Vesper Sparrow	testes 1 x 0.5 mm		24.5
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1.3 mi. n. & 0.5 mi. w. of Snowy Mtn., 8300 ft., Okanagan Range, B.C., Canada

Aug. 23, 1969

802	?	Horned Lark		skull or.	39.0
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Catalog

R.E. Johnson

0.2 mi. w. + 0.1 mi. n. of Snowy Mtn, 8200 ft., Okanagan Range, B.C., Canada

Aug 25, 1969

803 Imma Rosy Finch sex? skull  
unoz. 25.0

804 Imma ♀ Rosy Finch skull  
unoz. 24.0

1.0 mi. s. + 0.5 mi. e. of Mt. Sweeney, <sup>6500</sup>~~7000~~ ft., Sibola Range, B.C., Canada

Aug. 30, 1969

805 ♂ Ptarmigan testes 4x3mm heart wt. 8.9 grams skull  
oz. 468g.

1.0 mi. s. + 0.3 mi. e. of Mt. Sweeney, 6500 ft., Sibola Range, B.C., Canada

806. ♂ White-tailed Ptarmigan testes 5x3mm heart wt. 4.8 grams skull  
oz 354

1.3 mi. w. + 1.0 mi. n. of Sibola Pk, 7000 ft., Sibola Range, B.C., Canada

Aug. 29, 1969

807 ♀ Rosy Finch ovary 2x1mm skull  
oz 25.5

808 ♂ Rosy Finch testes 1.5x1mm skull  
oz 28.0

809 ♂ Rosy Finch testes 1.5x1mm skull  
oz. 29.0

0.5 mi. w. + 0.3 mi. n. of Sibola Pk, 6500 ft., Sibola Range, B.C., Canada

Aug. 29, 1969

810 ♂ ~~Rosy Finch~~ Water Pipit testes 1.5x1mm skull  
oz 21.0

1.7 mi. s. + 1.0 mi. e. of Mt. Sweeney, 6500 ft., Sibola Range, B.C., Canada

Aug. 30, 1969

811 ♂ Horned Lark testes 2x1mm skull  
oz. 39.5



## Catalog

R.E. Johnson

2.2 mi. s. to 2.5 mi. e. of Hudson Bay Mtn., 5400 ft., B.C., Canada

Sept. 1, 1969

812	Imma ♀?	Water Pipit		skull unoz.	20.5
813	Imma. ♂	Water Pipit	testes 1x1mm	skull unoz.	22.0
814	♂	Horned Lark	testes 1.5x1mm	skull oz.	45.5
815	♀	Ptarmigan	ovary 12x9mm (♀ with 2 young nearly grown)	skull oz.	not weighed

0.7 mi. n. of Gardiner Lake, Beartooth Mtns, 10,400 ft., Wyoming (Park Co.)

Sept. 8, 1969

816	♂ Imma	Rosy Finch	testes 1x1mm		28.5
817	♀ Imma.	Rosy Finch	ovary 3x1mm	skull unoz.	24.0
818	♂ Imma	Rosy Finch	testes 1x1mm	skull unoz.	26.5
819	♂ Imma	Rosy Finch	testes 1x1mm	skull unoz.	27.5
820	♂ Imma	Rosy Finch	testes 1x1mm	skull unoz.	26.5
821	Imma ♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 3x1mm	skull unoz.	25.5
822	Imma ♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 4x1.5mm	skull unoz.	22.0
823	Imma ♂	Rosy Finch	testes 1x1mm	skull unoz.	26.5





R. E. Johnson  
1969

~~Journal~~  
Catalog

0.7 mi. n. of Gardner Lake, Beartooth Mtns, 10,400 ft., Wyoming (Park Co.)

Sept. 8, 1969

824	Imma ♂	Rosy Finch	testes 1x1mm	skull unoz	28.0
825	Imma ♂	Rosy Finch	testes 1x1mm	skull unoz	25.5
826	Imma ♂	Rosy Finch	testes 1x1mm	skull unoz	24.5
827	Imma ♂	Rosy Finch	testes 1x1mm	skull unoz	26.0
828	Imma ♂	Rosy Finch	testes 1x1mm	skull unoz	26.0
829	♂	Water Pipit	testes 1x1mm black (rather heavy body fat; the heaviest of all pipits seen this fall)	skull oz.	21.5
830	Imma	Water Pipit		skull unoz	21.0

0.4 mi. s. & 0.3 mi. e. of Beartooth Pass, 10,800 ft., Beartooth Mtns, Wyoming (Park Co.)

Sept. 9, 1969

831	Imma ♂	Rosy Finch	testes 1x1mm	skull unoz.	24.0
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0.7 mi. n. & 1.6 mi. e. of Beartooth Pass, 10,600 ft., Beartooth Mtns,  
Wyoming (Park Co.)

Sept. 10, 1969

832	Imma. ♂	Rosy Finch	testes 1x1mm	skull unoz.	no weight
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4.4 mi. s. & 1.9 mi. w. of Tolman Mtn., 10,100 ft., Beartooth Mtns, Park Co., Wyoming

Sept. 11, 1969

833	Imma. ♂	Water Pipit	testes 1x1mm (black)	skull unoz.	20.5
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Catalog  
~~Stamps~~

R.E. Johnson

4.4 mi. s. & 1.9 mi. w. of Tolman Mtn., 10,100 ft., Beartooth Mtns, Park Co, Wyo.

Sept. 11, 1969

834	Imma. ♂	Water Pipit	1x1mm testes ( <del>black</del> ) (white)	skull unoss.	21.0
835	♂	Water Pipit	testes 2x1mm (black)	skull oss.	20.0
836	♂	Water Pipit	testes (left testes 1x1mm (white with black spot; right testes white)	skull oss.	21.0
837	Imma. (♀?)	Water Pipit		skull unoss.	19.5
838	Imma.	Water Pipit		skull unoss.	21.0
839	Imma. (♀?)	Water Pipit	ovary (appeared to have an 3x1mm (ovary on each side!?)	skull unoss.	19.0
840	Imma.	Water Pipit		skull unoss.	18.5
841	♂	Water Pipit	testes 1.5x1mm (black)	skull oss.	21.5
842	Imma. ♂	Water Pipit	testes 1x1mm (black)	skull unoss.	20.0
843	♂	Water Pipit	testes 1x1mm (black)	skull oss.	20.0
844	Imma. ♂	Water Pipit	testes 1x1mm (black)	skull unoss.	21.0
845	Imma.	Water Pipit		skull unoss.	18.0



## Catalog

R.E. Johnson

0.7 mi. n. of Gardner Lake, Beartooth Mtns., 10,400 ft., Park Co., Wyo.

Sept. 12, 1969

846	Imma. ♀	Rosy Finch <del>Water Pipit</del>	ovary 3x1mm		skull unoss	24.5
847	Imma. ♂	Rosy Finch	testes 1x1mm		skull unoss	22.5
848	Imma. ♀	Water Pipit	ovary 3x2mm		skull unoss	21.5
849	Imma. ♀	Water Pipit	ovary 3x1mm		skull unoss	20.5
850	♀	Water Pipit	ovary 5x3mm	largest ovum 0.5mm	skull os	19.0
851	♂	Water Pipit	testes 1.5x1mm (black)		skull os	22.5
852	♂	Water Pipit	testes 1.5x1mm (white)		skull os	21.5
853	♀	Water Pipit	ovary 3x2mm	largest ovum 0.5mm	skull os	18.5
854	♂	Water Pipit	testes 1.5x1mm	heavy fat like # 829	skull os	22.5
855	♀	Water Pipit	ovary 7x4mm	largest ovum 0.5mm	skull os	22.0
856	Imma. ♀	Water Pipit	ovary 5x3mm		skull unoss	22.5
857	Imma. ♂	Water Pipit	testes 1x1mm		skull unoss	21.5



Catalog

R.E. Johnson

Clay Butte Lookout, 9800 ft., Beartooth Mtns, Park Co., Wyoming

Sept. 12, 1969

858	Imma ♀	Water Pipit	ovary 2x2mm	heavy fat	skull unoss	21.0
859	Imma	Water Pipit		" "	skull unoss	19.0
860	Imma	Water Pipit		" "	skull unoss	22.5
861	Imma ♂	Water Pipit	testes 1x1mm (black)		skull unoss	20.0
862	Imma. ♂	Water Pipit	testes 1x1mm (black)		skull or	20.5

Cold Bay, Alaskan Peninsula, Alaska

captured Feb. 7, 1969; Died Nov. 9, 1969 in Berkeley

863	♂	Rosy Finch	testes <del>1.5x1.5mm</del> 1.5x1.5mm			27.5
864	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 2.0x1.5mm			35.5

Colorado; Nederland, 8200 ft., Boulder Co., Colorado

Caught March 24, 1969; Died July 15, 1969 in Berkeley

865	♀	Rosy Finch Au	ovary 6x3mm			21.0
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Died Oct. 1, 1969 in Berkeley

866	♀	Rosy Finch-T	ovary 3x2mm	growth on rt eye (Formerly ♂ rt)		17.0
		bill bright yellow				





## Catalog

RE. Johnson  
1969-70

867 ♂ Rosy Finch - T      testes  
3x2mm

Died Fall, 1969 in Berkeley  
(Formerly banded G rt) 24.0g

Cold Bay, Alaskan Peninsula, Alaska

Captured Feb. 7, 1969; Died Aug. 18, 1969 in Berkeley

868 ♂ Rosy Finch - G      testes  
7x4mm.

(Formerly banded R rt, w lt) 22.5g

869 ♂ Rosy Finch - T      testes  
8x6mm

Died July 25, 1969 in Berkeley  
(Formerly Y lt) 21.0g

Bacchus, 4400 ft., Salt Lake Co., Utah

Captured March 19, 1969; Died July 11, 1969 in Berkeley

870 ♂ Rosy Finch - At      testes  
6x4mm

(Formerly Y rt) 15.5g

Nederland, 8200 ft., Boulder Co., Colorado

Captured March 24, 1969; Died in Berkeley Aug 6, 1969

871 ♂ Rosy Finch - au      testes  
4x3mm

(Formerly Y rt, B lt) 12.0

Cold Bay, Alaskan Peninsula, Alaska

Captured Feb. 7, 1969; Died May 12, 1970

872 ♂ Rosy Finch - G      rt testes 11x9mm, Lt. 4x3mm

(banded Green on both legs, Rm Ta) 35.4



Johnson, R.E.,

1969 (Part)

Journal

Calif.

Oregon

Idaho

Montana

Canada

Wyo.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

June 14

Berkeley to Dunnigan, California

Left Berkeley at about 9 PM & drove Interstate 80, 505, and 5 to a Roadside Rest Stop near Dunnigan where I pulled in for the night.

June 15

Dunnigan, Calif. to Lake of the Woods, Oregon

Continued north on Interstate 5. Stopped at Castle Crags State Park & took a few pictures. Further north I turned off & drove up to Mt. Bradley Lookout (5541 Ft.). Returned to the highway & continued north through Dunsmuir, Weed & Klamath Falls. Stopped along the Klamath Lakes to take pictures of Western Grebes. Turned west of Interstate 5 to Lake-of-the-Woods area and searched for the trail to Mt. McLoughlin. I found that the roads were different than those on my Klamath Ranger District Map. (Though I obtained the map in 1967, it is dated 1958!). The road I planned to use for access is ~~not~~ closed ~~to~~ due to logging and a new road has been put in to the east. I located the trail head & then returned to Lake-of-the-Woods & camped at Spruce campground.

June 16

Mt. McLoughlin, 9495 ft., Jackson Co., Oregon

The trail origin is shown on the sketch map. It climbs rapidly to a ridge after first crossing Cascade Canal (Creek) and passing a small spring. The ridge is followed eastward a short ways on the level and then the climb begins again. Snow was encountered as scattered patches



R. E. Johnson  
1969

## Journal

20

June 16

Mt. McLoughlin, 9495 ft., Jackson Co., Oregon

from the beginning but now it covers the trail 70% of the time. This continues until timberline is reached at about 7200 ft. Above this point the trail is usually free of snow.

At 12 noon I saw a pair of birds (Rosy Finches) feeding on the snow surface on a large snow field on the south slope of the peak. They slowly moved down the slope. I was at least 500 ft above them but tried to work down below them with no success. They finally disappeared. At 1 PM I saw 3 Rosy Finches on a large snow patch east of the summit at 9000 ft. I collected one (♀ in breeding condition: many 2mm follicles + an enlarged reprod. tract (incubation patch)). At 1:30 PM I collected one Rosy Finch high on the south slope snow patch (8800 ft.). It was a male littoralis with some brown on one cheek indicating intergradation with dawsoni.

Several other rosy finches were seen after this but none could be collected. Either they were in flight over the north face cliffs or they landed too close (20 ft!). One bird was seen at 2:30 PM, 2:45 PM, 2:50 PM, & 3:45 PM. Three were seen at 3:00 PM. Therefore a minimum of 5 birds (2 collected prior to seeing 3 together) must have been present. There are probably many more than this. There are ample cliffs ~~above~~ above the two large snow filled cirques for many nests. No tundra mats were noted & no Pipits seen.





## Journal

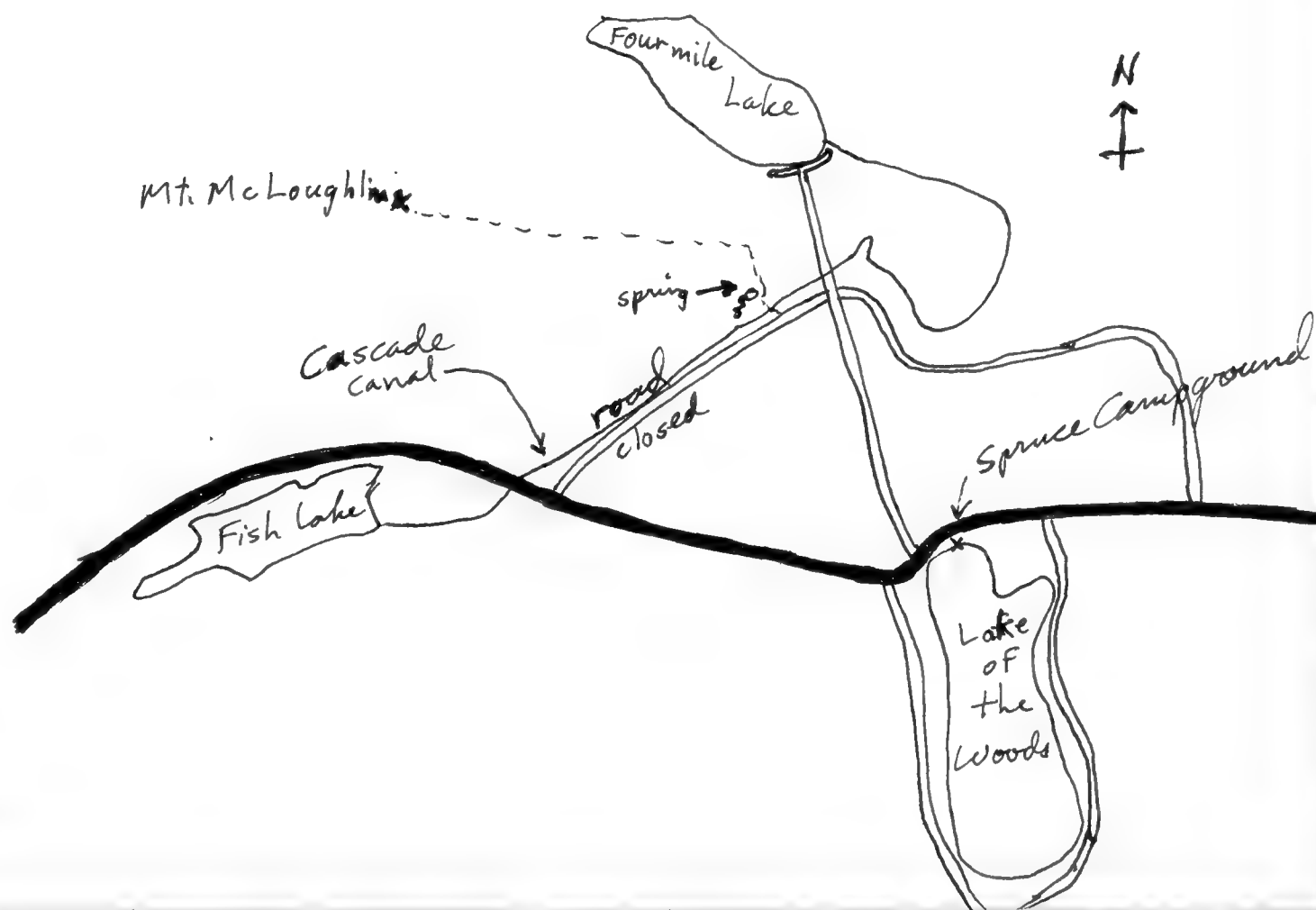
R.E. Johnson  
1969

June 16

Mt. McLoughlin, 9495 ft., Jackson Co., Oregon

Three Ravens circled on the east ridge at 8500 to 9000 ft. at 1 PM. One Mtn Bluebird was seen. Also a Yellow-bellied Marmot was in residence under the remains of the Foundation of an old lookout tower on top the mtn. Otherwise no animals were seen except the rosy finches.

Due to a mistake I had not brought my sunglasses but my second pair of regular glasses. Thus the extreme bright sun had not only scalded my scalp through my thin short hair but my eye balls were aching & very sore. I had to close them for awhile at one point to keep from going snow blind. I returned back to the car & camp and skinned the two birds to the tune of sniffles from a newly acquired cold.





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969June 17 Lake-of-the-Woods to Bend, Oregon

Spent the day driving & relaxing after yesterday's climb. I was in poor shape & today I'm sore. The cold is worse & my eyes are sore from near snowblindness. Drove east to Klamath Falls & noticed, one or two peaks south & east of Mt. McLoughlin (west of Klamath Lake) that appear ragged, snow covered & above timberline (barely) that might have rosy finches. I'm not sure what these peaks are. Took pictures of Mt. McLoughlin from several distant points. Drove north from Klamath Falls on Interstate 5 (US 97) & took pictures of Mt. Scott (Crater Lake Rim) & Mt. Thielsen. Drove over to Diamond Lake & back.

Just north of Lapine I turned west on a loop road past many lakes which lie sc. of the Three Sisters Wilderness Area. I drove in to see Crane Prairie Res., Cultus Lake, Lava Lake, Little Lava Lake, Devils Lake, Sparks Lake, & Todd Lake. I took pictures of many of these with various peaks (Three Sisters, Broken Top & Bachelor Butte) in the background. Beautiful lakes (some) & meadows. Visited Bachelor Butte ski area & found out I could ride the lift at 8:30 AM on June 19 when a bunch of skiers will be there. The lift was not operating today or tomorrow. The mtn looks like it might have rosy finches. Broken Top mtn does have & it is only 100 ft. higher & is nearby. I drove back to the



R.E. Johnson  
1969

## Journal

June 17

### Lake-of-the-Woods to Bend, Oregon

cast to Bend & got a motel for the night in hopes I could get rid of the cold & also get cleaned up a bit.

June 18.

### Bend to Devils Garden Campground, Oregon

Decided to wait around until the 19th so I could ride the ski lift up Bachelor Butte. In the meantime I decided to sight see & also try to drive up to Broken Top crater, ~~the~~ which should be a ready ~~access~~ point to Broken Top mtn & rosy finches. First I drove west out of Bend to Tumalo Falls & took some pictures, then followed a branch of that road about 10 miles toward Broken Top before being stopped by snow. This left me 5 miles or so from the end of the road at Broken Top crater and even further from the peak itself. This was no closer than I could approach the peak from Todd Lake. I drove back toward Bend & then up the Cascade Highway toward Bachelor Butte & the lake country I had visited previously. This time I stopped primarily at Todd Lake & Elk Lake. Finally I camped at Devils Garden. I climbed about ~~on~~ the cliffs and rubble to the north of the camp & discovered a Junco nest on the <sup>lava</sup> cliffs - located 12 ft above the base. A Junco was seen leaving. The nest was empty but obviously of new construction & appeared to lack a completed bottom. Thus it was probably under construction. It was located in a horizontal crack about 18 inches long, 6 inches deep & 3 inches high.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

June 19

Bachelor Butte, 9065 Ft., Deschutes Co., Oregon

This peak sits about 7 miles south &  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile east of Broken Top Mtn. This places it even further east (4 mi. e.) of South Sister. It is also a little lower than Broken Top (9175 Ft.) and considerably lower than the Sisters (North 10,085; Middle 10,047; South 10,358). It has less snow than Broken Top which in turn has less than the Sisters which have many glaciers. South Sister particularly has large amounts of snow on its south slopes (85% snow cover down to 8000 ft!). Bachelor Butte has almost no snow on the south side, even near the top. This lesser amount of snow & ice is probably partly due to its lower altitude but is mainly because it lies in the rain shadow of the much larger mass of the Three Sisters + Broken Top. Even so, there is considerable snow on Bachelor Butte on the north slopes & the ski lift is running today to carry a special ski group which is training for competition! The places where the snow still occurs is probably usually several feet deep, but many rock outcrops & ridges which are usually covered with snow during ski season are now very prominent & dangerous to skiers. Snow cover on the north slope is probably 70% (less than so. slope of South Sister). I rode the ski lift up to 7700 Ft. starting at 8:30 AM. Then I strolled on to the mtn. top, arriving at 10:05 AM. I was amazed at how little soil development there is and how few plants. There is no tundra development. On the bare areas ~~top~~ on the north face there is probably less than a plant per acre except



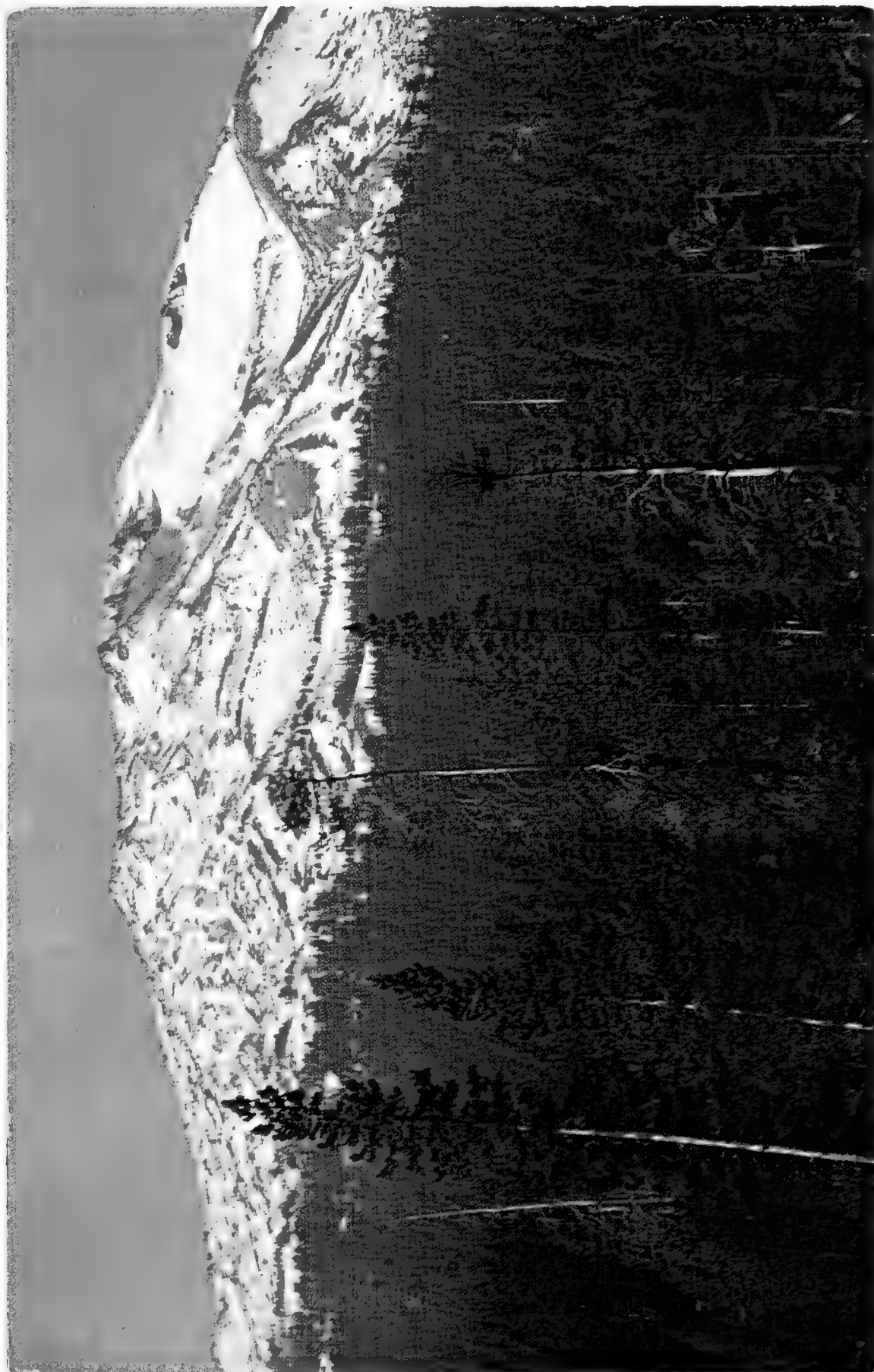


## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

June 19

Bachelor Butte, 9065 ft., Deschutes Co., Oregon



Bachelor Butte from NE on Cascade Lakes Hwy



RE. Johnson  
1969

## Journal

26

June 19

Bachelor Butte, 9065ft., Deschutes Co., Oregon.

For a small area (20x20ft) in a saddle on the new ridge where there is a little soil & a patch of plants. With such a scarcity of plants one would be surprised to see marmots or pikas & none have been seen. On the other hand I saw one Golden Mantled Ground Squirrel on that one saddle of soil & ~~also~~ a chipmunk near the summit cairn. I have heard a Rock Wren (could be more than one) occasionally. I saw a pine Siskin on the ground on that saddle. A Townsend Solitaire Flew across the north face about 500 ft below the summit. An Oregon Junco Flew across the face & landed on a rock pinnacle & there I lost track of him. It does not appear that there are any rosy finches on the mtn. I have examined all the snow patches several times with my binoculars & found no feeding birds. I have been on top or on nearby side ridges for 2½ hours and heard or seen no rosy finches. There are at least 4 sets of cliffs, all on outcropping pinnacles on the north slope that would make good nesting cliffs, although the area involved isn't large. There is unlimited potential for talus slope nests, etc. I don't believe the absence of finches can be related to any lack of nest sites. Two factors may account for their absence: ① lack of water &/or snow in mid-summer. It is easy to imagine that there would be no snow or free water by August on this mountain. The ground appears to be porous & no water seems to



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

June 19

Bachelor Butte, 9065 Ft., Deschutes Co., Oregon.

accumulate. As mentioned earlier, the mtn gets less snow than the Sisters & its climate is probably warmer in the summer due to its more eastward location from the main Cascade crest. (2) Lack of plants & therefore seeds. There are an amazing number of insects. Spiders abound in the black lava rocks, horse flies swarm around me when I ~~stop~~ stop to write, eat or observe, and white cabbage butterflies seem fairly common. This probably accounts for the presence of Rock Wrens, which appear to be the only obvious bird in residence. I just (12:40 PM) noted a Mtn Bluebird perched on a rock on top the main ridge and also a nearby interested chipmunk.

Further notes on soil & vegetation, etc. The top of the mountain is a series of ridges & knolls, usually of large boulders but sometimes of smaller rocks or <sup>(pumice-like)</sup> even some soil. Rocks may be light weight, or quite dense. The soil, when present, is such that you sink in 1-2 inches when you step on it. Between the ridges & knolls are depressions, often partially filled with snow & producing a small stream which flows to the low point & sinks into the accumulating pumicey soil. Often at these points small patches of Juncus occur. On the ridge tops with soil there are a few individuals of a yellow Cruciferae (with large flowering head. Plant is only 5 inches tall; of this the flower is 4 inches). On rock outcrops on the



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

June 19

Bachelor Butte, 9065, Deschutes Co., Oregon

north face are a few small Polomonium sp. (?) plants. Several 1-2 ft. White-barked Pine trees were found growing out of solid rock.

Far down the north side is a very large gray moraine indicating the past presence of a sizeable glacier. The most that remains of it now is some very consolidated snow that may contain some glacial ice (this snow protrudes through the usual white snow, & has a bluish cast & is crissed by small fractures) located on the upper east slope of the NNW ridge overlooking the basin that once contained the larger glaciers.

I climbed on each of the "pinnacles" on the north face and the easternmost of the 3 big ones has a large cavern (vent) coming out of its east side. One can see in on an angle for 40 ft or so (hole is ~~2~~ 6-8 ft. in diameter) before it bends to a flatter angle. Thus rocks would go no further than I could see.

Left the top at 3 PM after 5 hours around the top & pinnacles without seeing a rosy finch. I talked with several people who run the ski lift and they say that snow remains in large amounts all summer on the upper north face & that there is still a small glacier up there. This means that snow & perhaps (?) warm weather are not limiting. It seems likely that plant food matter ~~may~~ is the limiting factor here. Insects are fairly common in the rocks & in the snow.





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

June 19

Bachelor Butte, 9065 ft., Deschutes Co., Oregon

The lift will run this summer until July 8 for summer ski training sessions!

Timberline is near the top of the lift (7700 ft.) & the last <sup>little</sup> trees occur at the top of a Poma Lift (8100 ft.). From there on it is 100% barren rocks (except as described earlier). Base of the ski lift (end of road) is 6500 ft.

After I had reached the top of the ski lift on my return trip, I looked back up the mtn. & saw two Ravens circling about 500 ft. below the top.

I returned down the ski lift, drove to the lodge & watched the Nixon press conference, then drove back to Bend to get the car lubed & eat dinner. Then drove north to Redmond & east to Dayville where I slept in the car.

June 20 Dayville to Enterprise, Oregon and on to Two Pan Campground

Drove to Enterprise to pick up mail & then ~~back~~ back to Lostine & up the Lostine River to Two Pan Campground where I camped. I also hiked up the East Lostine trail a mile and discovered that a new bridge has been put in replacing the old hazardous river ford.

June 21 Two Pan C.G. to Eagle Cap Pk

Ate & packed for a possible 4 day trip to Eagle Cap Pk. Left Two Pan at 11:15 AM & hiked up the East Lostine River to Lost Lake & 2 miles beyond found a young couple camped in the meadow (Dr. William A. Disher of Spokane). We talked for an hour or more while I ate



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

June 21

Two Pan CG. to Eagle Cap Pk, Wallowa Mtns, Oregon  
 lunch. Then he hiked along with me to the trail jct  
 at the head of the valley. He went on to Mirror Lake  
 (frozen over) and I continued up to Upper Lake & then up  
 to the left toward Eagle Cap Peak where I set up  
 camp in the same spot as two years ago. There is  
 about the same amount of snow now as there had  
 been in mid July two yrs ago. Upper Lake is entirely  
 frozen except for an area near the outlet. Mirror Lake  
 is nearly all frozen. Moccasin Lake has very little ice (5% of  
 surface). Glacier Lake is frozen over (but very thin). There had  
 been a storm two days ago & ~~then~~ then the weather  
 cleared. Now the clouds moved in again. I set up  
 camp & then hiked up the snow & head east in front of the  
 north face of Eagle Cap. A rosy finch chirped from the  
 boulder moraine north of me & then flew south toward the  
 cliffs of the peak where it met another rosy finch flying  
 out from the cliffs & the flew east together. I continued  
 east in hopes of finding them feeding on the ne ridge,  
 but I didn't find them. On returning to Eagle Cap I  
 again heard rosy finches, both on the cliffs & on the boulder  
 moraine to the north. The later bird flew to the cliffs when  
 I approached him, then returned to the moraine when I  
 approached the cliffs & finally back to the cliffs at a point  
 much further west. More than one bird chirped from the cliffs.  
 The call, <sup>(ching, ching)</sup> is apparently a distress or alarm call & lacks the harsh  
 sound of the usual chirp. There is clearly more activity  
 on this mountain this year than <sup>two yrs ago</sup> ~~two~~ I returned to camp

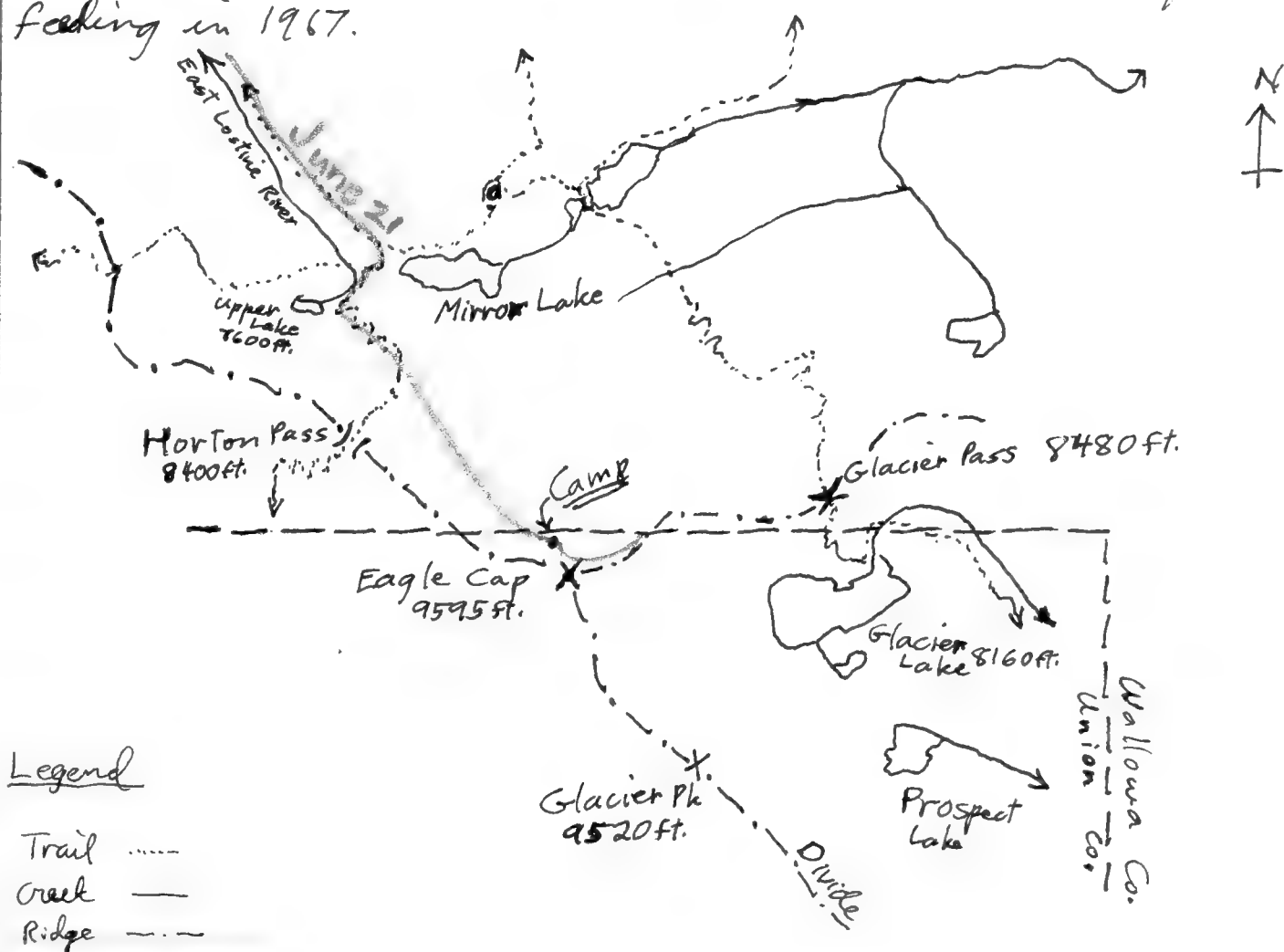


## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

June 21 Two Pan C.G. to Eagle Cap Pk, Wallowa Mtns, Oregon  
to cook at 9PM as black clouds rolled overhead.  
Water Pipits, a Mtn. Bluebird, & <sup>Rock</sup>Wrens had been heard on the  
north side of the mtn today — also a cony.

June 22 Eagle Cap Pk, Wallowa & Union Cos, Oregon  
Sky black with clouds when I awoke. Heard a Rock Wren  
near camp (8500 ft.) at 7AM. By 7:30AM light snow was  
falling. I hiked up the snow below the north face of  
Eagle Cap, traveling west to east, listening for the rosey  
finches I had seen & heard yesterday afternoon. Visibility  
was limited to 100 ft because of the low clouds.  
No birds of any kind were heard or seen. Next I  
hiked out the NE ridge where birds were found  
feeding in 1967.

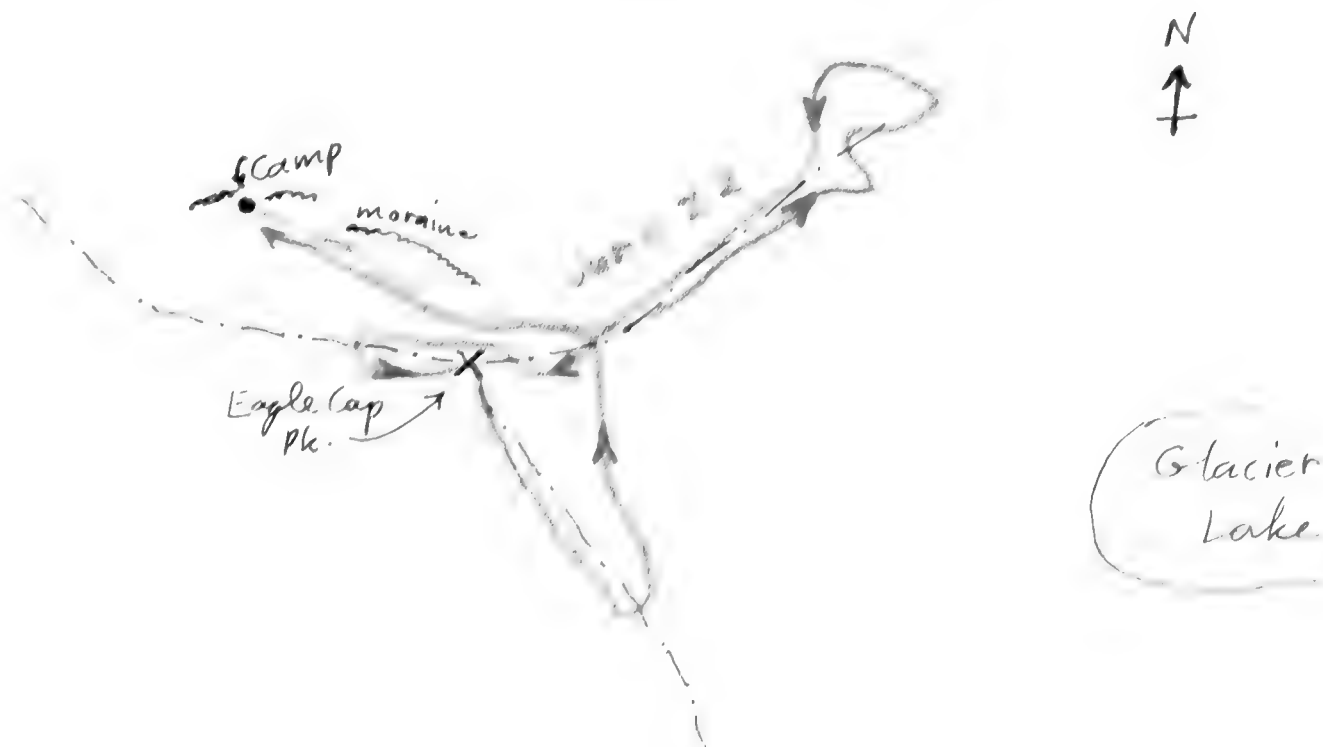




## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

June 22

Eagle Cap Pk., Wallowa & Union Cos., Oregon

The only birds seen on the NE ridge were several Water Pipits, though I heard a W.C. Sparrow & perhaps (?) a Rosy Finch. I then returned to the peak & worked my way across the face of the cliffs on the north face. I had never ~~crossed~~ crossed the cliff face before & I hoped to encounter the birds I had heard yesterday. I heard only one bird, <sup>Rosy Finch</sup> that only briefly. I then climbed up to the west ridge and went east to the summit, then southeast along the top of the cliffs & down a snow slope & returned northwest below the cliffs, then west to camp. In this entire route (since the afore mentioned rosy finch) the only bird seen or heard was one Water Pipit just south of the summit of Eagle Cap. I returned to camp at 6 PM after an extremely unproductive day. The only bird in prominence was the Water Pipit. The Rosy Finches were in hiding. The weather promised to continue this way for some time, my tent





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969June 22 Eagle Cap pk, Wallowa & Union Cos., Oregon.

had a significant leak and my sleeping bag was wet, so I packed up (still snowing) and hiked out to Two Pan. ~~Just~~ Just as I left camp near Eagle Cap a rosy finch flew up from feeding only 100 ft. from camp! Hmm! While hiking along the long meadow to Lost Lake I noticed many Ruby-crowned Kinglets & White-crowned Sparrows singing & heard one Varied Thrush. There were a large number of Robins & a few Mtn. Bluebirds & Spotted Sandpipers on the lush meadows.

Upon reaching Two Pan I drove to Enterprise & got a cheap motel room where I could spread out my sleeping bag, tent & other things to dry.

June 23 Enterprise, Wallowa Co., Oregon

Continued drying & cleaning up my camping gear, etc. Washed clothes, washed the car, picked up mail. Finally drove up Hurrican Creek to camp for the night. Rain has continued all day & the peaks are hidden by clouds.

June 24 Enterprise, & Vicinity, Wallowa Co., Oregon

Drove east to Imhaha & Hat Point overlooking Hell's Canyon (Snake River), America's deepest canyon. The clouds filled the snake river canyon so that I couldn't see the bottom.

Fresh snow had fallen at Hat Point and vicinity and on the Seven Devils Mtns across the canyon. The tops of these



## Journal

R. E. Johnson  
1969

June 24

Enterprise & vicinity, Wallowa Co., Oregon

mtns were in the clouds also. Returned again toward Enterprise & visited Wallowa Lake. The skies were clearing above parts of the Wallawas even though the whole northwest is in storm & clouds extended as far as one could see in all directions. I decided to spend another night <sup>on</sup> ~~at~~ Hurricane Creek in hopes it would be clear in the morning. If so, then I would hike a mining trail up past Falls Creek Falls to Legore Mine to Legore Lake (8880 ft.). Peaks overlooking the lake reach up to 9673 (Twin Peaks). (See: Eagle Cap Wilderness Map & Enterprise Topo Map [1:62500]).

June 25

Hurricane Creek, Wallowa Co., Oregon to Riggins, Idaho Co., Idaho

Awoke at 6 AM to the sound of rain on the roof. Therefore no hike to Legore Lake today. I wrote a couple letters then drove to Enterprise & north to Clarkston & Lewiston & south again in Idaho to Riggins where I picked up mail. Then drove up the road to Seven Devils Campground (16 miles).  
(1 mile approx.)  
Just prior, to reaching the campground the road passes ~~through~~ <sup>(50. Facing)</sup> along an open slope of flowery meadows <sup>(7300 ft.)</sup>. Among a flock of feeding Cassin's Finches & Pine Siskins were several Rosy Finches. Between 6 and 9 PM I collected 12 Rosy Finches. Also seen feeding <sup>& singing</sup> in this general area were: Rock Wren, Red-shafted Flicker, Robin, Mtn. Bluebird, Vesper Sparrow, Lazuli Bunting, Chipping Sparrow. It started snowing



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

June 25

Hurricane Creek, Wallawa Co., Oregon to Riggins, Idaho Co., Ida  
rather hard before I left. Snow had fallen at higher altitudes during the storm. There were about 3 inches of fresh snow in the campground and 5 inches along the Heavens Gate View Rd. That road ~~is~~ closed by an 8 Ft. drift of winter snow! The clouds were generally low over the peaks & occasionally dropped to my location on the meadow. When the peaks could be seen, it was clear they had been heavily iced up by the current storm. They looked coated with white frosting. The trees in the campground have a heavy layer of ice. Probably the rosy finches were driven down to feed. The meadows where I found them were free of ice & snow (until it started snowing at 8pm), whereas the meadows a little higher were crusted with ice. I returned to Riggins & got a motel to dry out my wet boots & warm me up. It is really cold up on the mtns this evening.

June 26

Riggins & vicinity, Idaho Co., Idaho

Waterproofed 2 pair of boots & drove up to the same meadow as yesterday. Collected 6 rosy finches between 12 noon & 1 PM. All are ♂'s with enlarged cloacal areas (no brood patches). Four are dark (brown & black) & 2 are more brown in color. Other species noticed in that period are about the same as yesterday: Pine Siskin



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

June 26

Riggins & vicinity, Idaho Co., Idaho

Cassin's Finch, Chipping Sparrow, Rock Wren, Vesper Sparrow, Mtn. Bluebird, Robin, Lazuli Bunting and also two new species: Oregon Junco and Clarke Nutcracker. This particular part of the meadow where the rosy finches occur seems to attract more birds (particularly the Siskins, ~~Cassins~~ Cassin's Finches & Rosy Finches) than other parts. The one unique thing about this spot seems to be a high density of Dandelion plants, half of which are now in seed. The meadows are very much in flower elsewhere but with other species. Main plants are a<sup>(1)</sup> Composit with yellow rays & disk flowers (14 inches tall, in max. bloom), <sup>(2)</sup> a Eupine (16 inches tall, blossoms about to open), Yarrow (no flower stalks yet), & Silky Phacelia (in bloom).

Between 1:30 & 2 PM additional rosy Finches arrived & I collected 11. Two were females, the rest males ranging from brown to fairly dark (same range as before & mostly dark birds). One dark bird is peculiar in having some gray below the eye, is it is a hybrid between the tephro-atrata hybrid and littoralis!

Between 3 & 3:30 PM I collected 5 more male Rosy Finches.

Returned to Riggins for mail, etc. & then drove <sup>4 miles</sup> east of town beyond Riggins Hot Spring to Albion Creek Campground on the Salmon River. Skinned four rosy finches.





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969June 27 Riggins & vicinity, Idaho Co., Idaho

Skinned 15 Rosy Finches. Drove to Town for mail & ice. Noted the following bird species as conspicuous along the way: Black Billed Magpie, Brewers Blackbird, Lazuli Bunting, Lewis Woodpecker, Red-shafted Flicker, & Evening Grosbeak. At camp Robins & a Says Phoebe were seen (also Bunting & Lewis Woodpeckers). Rain continues.

June 28 Riggins & vicinity, Idaho Co., Idaho

Skinned the remaining 15 birds by 9 PM! Noted these additional birds around camp area: Crow, Belted Kingfisher, Spotted Sandpiper, Cliff Swallow, Sparrow Hawk, and Common Nighthawk. Camp is at the bottom of the Salmon River Canyon in a small open stand of Ponderosa Pine (30-80 ft. high). Canyon ~~sides~~ sides are steep grass slopes with occasional brush patches or trees.

Drove from Allison Creek Campground at 9:15 PM & followed the road up Allison Creek with the intent of going past Florence (25 miles) to the area around Gospel ~~Peak~~ Ph (8345 ft.) to see how near alpine this area is. There are still higher points (Buffalo Hump 8938, & North Pole 8817) directly east of Gospel Peak but they must be reached from another route. I only drove a short ways beyond the Jct with a road to Slate Pt. lookout when I ran into very muddy conditions & I was lucky to escape without spending the night & walking for help. In route I noticed a very snowy peak south of the Salmon River & directly opposite Allison Creek. There is a chance Rosy Finches could occur there. I spent the night near the road jct



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

June 28

Riggins & vicinity, Idaho Co., Idaho

to Slate Pt. Lookout. I saw a ♀ Elk near the muddy part of the road.

June 29

Riggins to Smith Mtn, Idaho

Drove toward Slate Pt. L.O. and ran into impassable snow as I approached Nut Basin Point (7740 Ft.). I walked up the peak. Chipping Sparrows, ~~the~~ Oregon Junco, & Ruby-crowned Kinglets were singing in the tree tops. The peak once harbored a lookout & the remains are still present. Nut Basin Lake can be seen in the forest below.

Back at the road junction I parked & listened to two church radio broadcasts while watching Evening Grosbeaks & Pine Siskins feed on the ground in the shadow of the car. A ♀ Williamson Sapsucker was feeding on the bark of a pine tree nearby & an Audubon Warbler flitted through the branches above it. Several Canada Jays flew from tree to tree in a loose group. Later, driving back toward the Salmon River, I saw a Stellar Jay & a Townsend Solitaire.

Yesterday afternoon it had been clearing & last night was clear. At 6 AM this morning new clouds were forming & covering the tops of peaks like Gospel Peak so that it was hard to tell exactly what the top looked like. Even so it doesn't appear that that peak could have any alpine setting. Timber runs uniformly to the top on the west & south slopes of all the mountains in that area. Of course the north



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969June 29 Riggins to Smith Mtn, Idaho

slope may contain a snowy cirque but this appears doubtful. The peaks aren't rugged & the <sup>fresh</sup> snow isn't as deep looking there as on many other spots in view.

The peak to the south that I noticed last night is apparently Patrick Butte (8841 Ft.). There is timber to the top, yet it's more rugged than other peaks (like Gospel) and there are a row of peaks (lower) with cliffs on their north faces - which run west from the peak.

In driving back to Riggins ~~to~~ from Allison Creek along the Salmon River, I completed 3 rolls of film, mostly on birds. A pair of Lewis Woodpeckers have a nest 30 ft up in a dead Ponderosa Pine tree on the edge of the road ~~along~~ <sup>above</sup> the river. Both adults fed the young. They were somewhat disturbed at the presence of my car (me inside) but continued to feed the young. Two other cars with fisherman came along & parked on either side of the tree & the fisherman walked & stood beneath the tree on the river's edge. This nearly brought Feeding to a halt, though the birds still sat in the tree. Elsewhere along the river bank the woodpeckers were common on the boulders inspecting shaded rock faces, etc. Three families (~~10-15~~) (approx 10 per group but usually more than 2 adults) & one single adult Chukar Partridge were seen crossing the dirt road. Several American Goldfinches were seen of phone wires.



## Journal

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1969June 29 Riggins to Smith Mtn, Idaho

A Western Kingbird nest was located between a telephone pole and a transformer. One bird usually stayed on the wire near the nest while I watched. The other would leave to forage. Since I was preoccupied with the camera, tripod & extension cord, I wasn't certain whether both birds fed the young. At times I thought they both did, at other times it appeared the same bird stayed near the nest each time & only the <sup>one</sup> foraging bird fed the young. The bird near the nest does occasionally feed also but ~~the~~ it doesn't leave the area. When one bird comes in with food, the other bird gets very excited & chirps & flutters its wings while sitting on the wire and also takes flight & hovers fluttering at an abnormally fast rate. The incoming bird (with food) may also flutter rapidly while hovering in flight.

Habitat was grassy fields + fences & phone lines.

A pair of Cedar Waxwings fed in a Serviceberry bush and one fed the other several times. This was not attended with begging, etc.

Several Mourning Doves were also seen along the way. A Brewer Blackbird carried food but the nest was not found (trees along creek & adjacent grassland).

Drove south from Riggins on US 95 to New Meadows & Council. Turned off in Council onto the Hazzard Creek Rd and followed it to Bear & on to Smith Mtn. on the Black Lake Road. At Smith Mtn the road was blocked by a deep snow drift (10 ft deep). I hiked up to the





R.E. Johnson  
1969

June 29

## Journal

### Riggins to Smith Mtn, Idaho

lookout tower on Smith Mtn (8005 ft.) and also along the Black Lake Road to the next divide & up Echols Mtn #2 (8151 ft.). The road entered an open park ridge top situation about two miles before reaching Smith Mtn & this continues north beyond Echols Mtn #2. The conditions aren't really alpine but they approach it on north slopes. I've seen Rosey Finches in other places which looked no better than here (ex. - Illinois W. in Bitterroot Mtns), but still I wouldn't expect them here & I saw none. A little snow may remain on the north slopes through the summer but certainly not much. Flowers in the upper areas include Glacier Lilies & Spring Beauty. There is more snow on the nw face of Echols Mtn #2 than on Smith Mtn. The birds that were seen in the park & adjacent trees, and all above 7500 ft were: Varied Thrush, Hermit Thrush, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Chipping Sparrow, Oregon Junco, Golden Eagle, Clark Nutcracker, Rock Wren, Mtn. Bluebird, Robin, Townsend Solitaire, Evening Grosbeak, White-crowned Sparrow, & Red-shafted Flicker. Conies, Chippmunks, & Mule Deer were seen. Goat wool was stuck in some bushes on Echols Mtn #2.

The park areas & associated views are beautiful. The parks are the south end of the Seven Devils Mtns. The main peaks cannot be seen from here however. The view is limited by ~~the~~ peaks such as Suckley Mtn (lookout) & the large <sup>mtn</sup> mass around Monument Pk.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969  
June 29

Riggins to Smith Mtn, Idaho

I drove back down the road toward Bear & spent the night at Huckleberry camp.

June 30

Cuprum area to McCall area, Idaho

I left camp and headed back to Smith Mtn to take a few pictures. In route I passed through a meadow at 5000 ft. where I noted White-headed Woodpeckers feeding young in a small snag centrally located in the meadow. A female Western Tanager was hawking insects from the ground or in low bushes. Mtn. Bluebirds, Mtn. Chickadees, Chipping Sparrows and an Empidonax flycatcher were also noted.

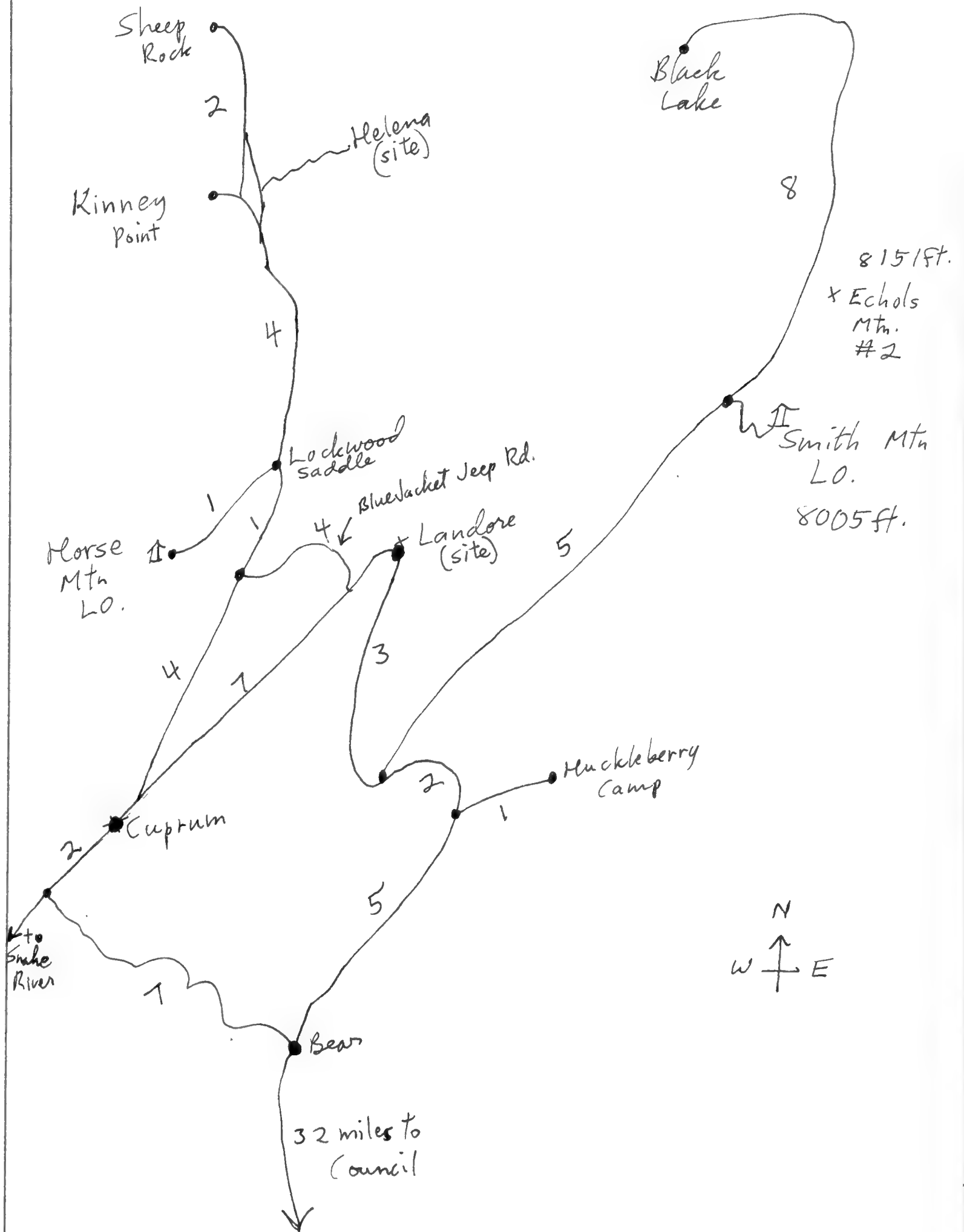
After a brief stop ~~on~~ on Smith Mtn, I returned down the road & turned right to Landore, then up the Bluejacket Jeep Rd to the road to Lockwood Saddle. I stopped at Horse Mtn Lookout, <sup>(6887 ft.)</sup> & spoke ~~with~~ with the lookout who knew absolutely nothing about anything. I had hoped to learn the names of some distant high peaks (to the west & southwest). I heard a Horned Lark singing above the park-like top of Horse Mtn. I drove out to Kinney Point (7126 ft.) & to Sheep Rock (6841) to view the Snake Gorge & to look at the Seven Devils Mtns from another angle. At Sheep Rock I found a pair of Hairy Woodpeckers feeding young in a nest in a snag (~~tree~~ hole facing



# Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

## southern Seven Devils Mtns: Roads & Mileages



## Maps:

Payette National Forest

Grangeville 1:250,000 topo.

Hornet Ranger District, Payette N.F. 1962

Nezperce Nat. Forest 1968

Salmon River Ranger District 1964

Riggins 30 min topo 1938

He Devil 15 min 1957

Cuprum 15 min 1957

## Journal

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1969

June 30

Cuprum area to McCall area, Idaho

south). I tried to drive to the site of the old mining town Helena by way of the road shown on the Cuprum 1:62500 topo map & I got stuck on a wet road too steep to back back up. The road was blocked below. I finally had to get out my ax & shovel and chop a new road down the mtn to join a better road below. I returned again to Lockwood Saddle & descended to Cuprum where I stopped to look into the Indian Creek Lodge. This turned out to be a two hour adventure. Not often do you find a lady running a lodge **50** miles from pavement who is a CPA, & real estate broker in a big city (Portland) and also a jeep driver, river float guide, artist, cook, etc, etc & who also knows the local bird calls! Then on to Council for gas and over to McCall, <sup>and</sup> up the Lick Creek Road where I camped.

July 1

Yellowpine, Big Creek, Stibnite to Riggins, Idaho

Continued up over a pass (6600 ft.) and down Lick Creek to the South Fork of the Salmon, then up the East Fork of the South Fork to Yellowpine & beyond to Big Creek. This requires going over Profile Gap (7606 ft) which looks like it would provide fairly easy access to the peaks to the west and to the east. Only those to the west can be seen from there, however the eastern peaks (as seen from





R.E. Johnson  
1969

## Journal

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July 1 Yellowpine, Big Creek, Stibnite to Riggins, Idaho  
Further along the road, are even more likely to have rosy finches. There is a steep jeep road that starts from the gap & goes up the east ridge (too steep for traction without 4-wheel drive). The peaks to the west reach their highest at Profile Pk (8957 ft.) & those to the east at The Pinnacle (~~9100~~ ft.). The eastern pks have a more vertical north face as well as slightly greater height. The distance to the first major peak in either direction is less than 2 miles.

Next I drove to Stibnite & took the road to Monumental Summit (8600 ft.) on the border of the Idaho Primitive area. There is still sparse timber at this elevation. The road continues down the opposite side of the ridge into the Primitive area to Roosevelt Lake (mining area). I drove down this about 3(?) miles to a position below a peak with a north facing wall (Murphy Pk 9268 ft.). This appeared to be the best Rosy Finch habitat in the immediate area. I hiked up to the ~~peak~~ cirque in only a few minutes through sparse timber and arrived at 5:30 PM. The area looks pretty barren compared to most peaks & immediately I suspected another sterile habitat like Bachelor Butte in Oregon. However there were differences. Here there were trees (white barked pine, alpine fir) above the diff on top of the peak. Still there was no meadow or tundra



R.E. Johnson  
1969

## Journal

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July 1. Yellowpine, Big Creek, Stibnite to Riggins, Idaho  
either in the cirque or on top of the peak &  
very little herbaceous growth on talus slopes.  
The entire cirque floor (+ moraines) ~~are~~<sup>is</sup> boulders  
( $\frac{1}{2}$  - 2 ft. in diameter) or snow. I heard no  
birds as I crossed the cirque but I did  
hear ~~two~~ conies. There must have been some  
plant food available. After climbing up the  
snow a short ways I saw a Rosy Finch  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  way toward the summit. Subsequently I  
noted others and saw as many as 3  
at one time indicating a reasonable  
breeding population. Once one landed 5 ft  
from me. A butterfly net would work better  
than a gun! One bird may have been somewhat  
brown but most were quite black (atrata).  
I was unable to collect any. The only  
other bird I saw as the Clark's Nutcracker  
which was common in the trees on top  
the peak. I climbed about on the cliffs &  
finally to the top. I headed down at 9 PM &  
left the cirque below at 9:30 PM. It was rather  
disappointing not to obtain birds but the hike was  
short & pleasant & easily repeated and it was  
valuable to know the birds occur at this  
elevation in this region. Probably rosy finches  
occur on a good many peaks along the western  
border of the primitive area as well as the peaks



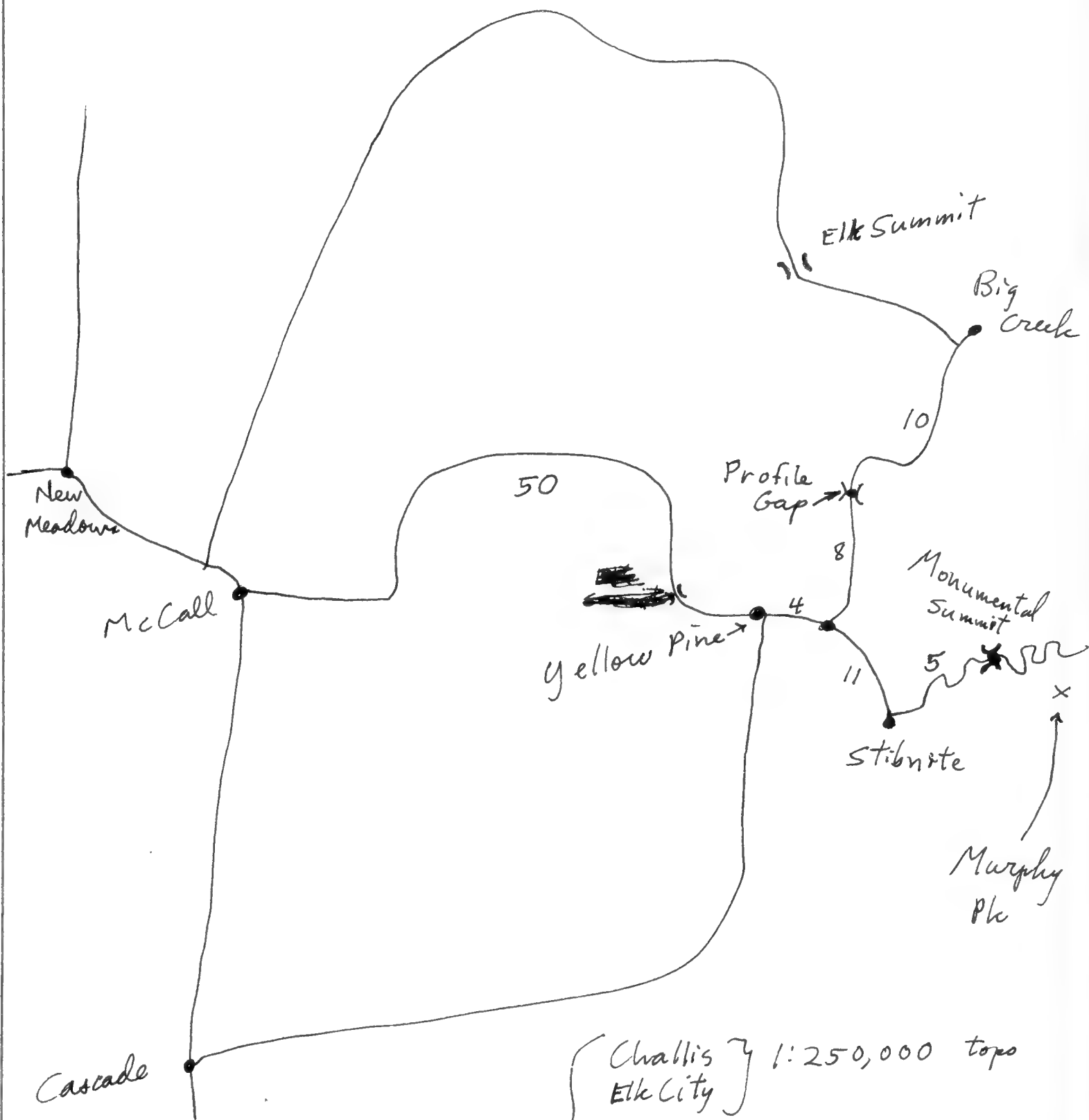
# Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

July 1

Yellow pine, Big Creek, & Stibnite, Idaho

[Mileage given between black dots (•)]



Maps:

- Challis Elk City } 1:250,000 topo
- Payette National Forest
- Big Creek Ranger District 1963
- Idaho & Salmon River Breaks Primitive Area 1968
- Yellow Pine - 15 min 1943
- Big Creek - 15 min. 1937



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

July 1 Yellowpine, Big Creek, Stibnite to Riggins, Idaho  
near Profile Summit.

Earlier in the day I had also tried one other location (accidentally omitted above). A road near Big Creek heads west over Goldman Cut (8331) & Elk Summit (8672 ft.) to Warren & McCall. Snow blocked the road at Goldman Cut (sparse timber continued well above this), which is located 2 miles from Elk Summit. The highest point in this area is Mt. Eldridge (9210 ft.). The area looks less inviting for Rosy Finches than Murphy Peak because Mt. Eldridge appears to lack the cliffs. Even so it is high & snowy & rosy finches may occur there. I decided to wait & return in two weeks when I should be able to drive to the summit.

After dark I drove back to Yellowpine & obtained gas & then on through McCall to Riggins.

[Added noted: Big Baldy Lookout (9792 ft.) south of Murphy Pk area looks like an excellent area for Rosy Finches.

July 2. Riggins, Idaho to Missoula, Montana

Picked up mail at Riggins & drove on through Grangeville & over Lolo Pass to Missoula where I picked up mail, visited friends & had dinner with Dr. & Mrs. Templeton. Rain began late this afternoon.





R-E. Johnson  
1969

# Journal

July 3 Missoula & vicinity, Montana

Had VW lubed (3000 mile check), answered mail & paid bills, etc.  
Haircut! Camped in Pattee Canyon Picnic Area.

July 4 St. Mary Pk., Ravalli Co., Montana

Drove south 2 miles past Stevensville & turned on the dirt road leading to the St. Mary Lookout trail (see Aug. 3, 1968 for details of route & habitat). Left car at 10:30 AM & arrived on peak at 11:30 AM. New snow (fallen in the past week) covered much of the ground, however there were ample bare areas for birds to feed. I walked the north ridge and descended into the ne cirque where I saw 2 birds fly which appeared to be Rosy Finches (1:30 AM). I could not locate them further. Further below I heard a Water Pipit singing. I finally returned to the top & followed the west ridge down as far as I had in 1968 & then I descended into the nw cirque. A pair of rosy finches were seen at 4:50 PM & another at 5:00 PM each flying SW over the west ridge into the trees on the south slope! I could not locate them.

During the day snow fell lightly on several occasions & a cold wind blew from the north & up the nw cirque.

The lookout is not occupied yet. Three motorcyclists rode up the mtn & 2 hikers (judging from tracks) also ascended the mtn - all in the afternoon.

Camped in Pattee Canyon.

Clark Nutcrackers & Rock Wrens were seen on St. Mary Pk.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969July 5 Mosquito Pk, 7800 ft., Missoula Co., Montana

Bought groceries, etc, and drove up Rattlesnake Creek north of Missoula, then up Lake Creek beyond where I wrecked my 1951 Ford back in 1963. Drove to the end of the dirt road and examined maps [1967 Missoula Ranger District Map, Lolo Nat. Forest  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch to the mile; 1956 Timber Inventory Map, Lolo N.F. 2 inch/mile] and talked to several different people about the trails & habitat. Apparently a number of trails are on neither map. Moreover the maps disagree also. From all I heard, it appeared the best bet would be to hike to Big Lake & to the mtns just behind (west) it. I left the car sometime after 3:30 PM.

At Big Lake (upper end) noticed a Robins nest with 3 blue eggs located  $3\frac{1}{2}$  ft. up in a 10 ft. Alpine Fir tree. The ♀ flushed. I saw a family of fledged Oregon Juncos plus at least one adult.

at the lake above Big Lake I saw a Spotted Sandpiper & an Audubon Warbler & heard an Olive-sided Flycatcher.

I ascended to the level of the 3rd lake (highest & further west, i.e. directly under the face of Mosquito Pk) and then ascended the ne ridge of Mosquito Pk. A cony was heard in the talus and Mtn Goat tracks, scats, & bedding places were seen on the ridge.

at 6:15 PM a Rosy Finch was collected from the top of the peak where it was feeding along the edge of some trees. It was a littoralis and it appeared to be reproductively inactive (cloacal area not enlarged).



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

July 5

Mosquito Pk, 7800 ft., Missoula Co., Montana

It had a large growth on its upper bill & also around both eyes. One eye was nearly swollen shut. Other birds seen on top included: Oregon Junco, Clark Nutcracker, & Mtn Chickadee.

It is surprising that alpine or nearly alpine habitat is found at this low an elevation. Since there are no detailed topographic maps of the area I was never sure just how high the peaks were & if they had timber-free areas on them. The Choteau 1:250,000 topo map shows green overprint for almost all of the area & doesn't suggest the possibility of alpine habitat. There really isn't a lot of alpine habitat. Rather it is spotty, confined to north &/or east faces of a few steep peaks. I still do not know if rosy finches breed here, since the one bird is a straggler. The north & east faces of Mosquito Pk have extensive cliffs. The north face is <sup>the</sup> covered with short trees however. The east face is the most alpine in nature, being free of trees from the top to the lake & cirque below. Trees do reach the top from the rounded west side however. They come to within 20 ft of the top of the east face. Trees are White-barked Pine, Alpine Fir, & Engelman Spruce and are 20-30 feet tall (not recumbent). Herbaceous growth includes Juncus, Spring Beauty, Glacier Lily, & Dwarf Huckleberry under the trees. Buttercups occur in wet chimneys on the north face. Plants on the top & east face include: Sedum, Eriogonum, Paint Brush,



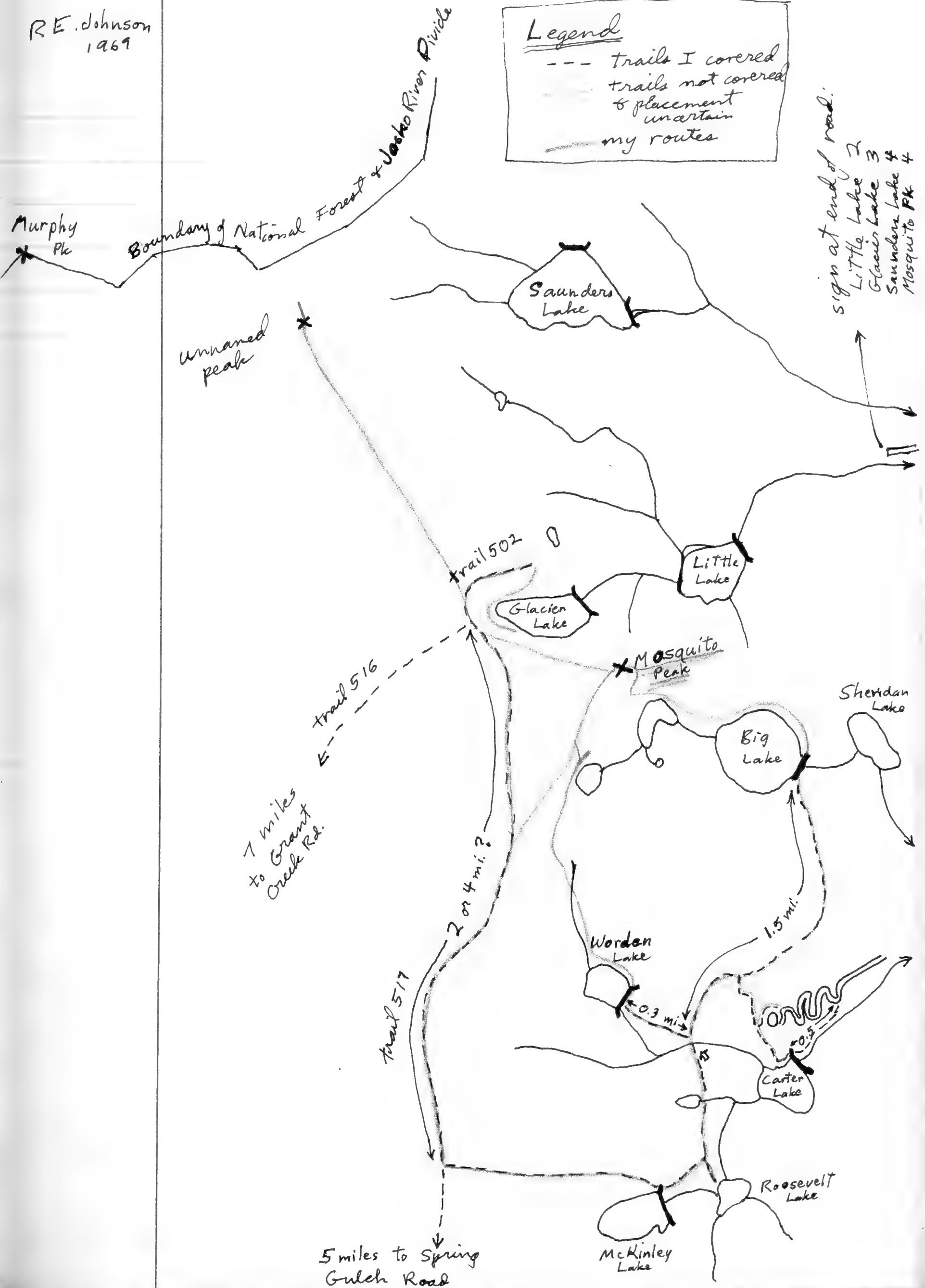
Rattlesnake Creek Drainage, Missoula Co., Montana

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RE Johnson  
1969

Legend

- trails I covered
- - - trails not covered & placement uncertain
- my routes







## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969July 5 Mosquito Pk, 8000 ft., Missoula Co., Montana

Penstemon (like lyalli), a yellow Compositae (leaves <sup>6-10 inches tall,</sup> alternate, basal leaves serrate, ray flowers 7, with tips 3 toothed, disc flowers approx. 30) and Ballhead Sandwort (Arenaria congesta).

July 6 Mosquito Pk & vicinity, Missoula Co., Montana

Camped at the end of the road last night. The skies were clear all night but have clouded over again this morning. I had intended to skin yesterday's bird before starting out again this morning but when I took it out to look at it it was crawling with small feather lice, more than I'd ever seen on a bird. I spent considerable time picking many of them off the bird & me & placing them in alcohol. Finally I decided to get on with the day's main chores & save the bird till later.

I took the trail past Roosevelt & McKinley lakes - once I figured out which trail that was. At Roosevelt Lake I saw a Robin, a Spotted Sandpiper, a Fox Sparrow & a Pine Squirrel and heard a Ruby Crowned Kinglet. At McKinley Lake I saw: Oregon Junco, Chipping Sparrow, Audubon Warbler, Pine Siskin, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Rufous Hummingbird, another Hummer (probably Caliope), Winter Wren, Cassin's Finch, Pine Grosbeak, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Townsend's Solitaire (common), Nuthatch sp?, & Hermit Thrush.

I hiked on to the ridge & trail jct. & then north on the trail toward Mosquito Peak and stopped at a point above the cirque above Worden Lake. Here I ate half of my lunch



R.E. Johnson  
1969

# Journal

July 6

Mosquito Pk & vicinity, Missoula Co., Montana.

(12 noon) and listened & watched for rosy finches below or along the top. A Hoary Marmot called regularly for about 10 minutes. A golden-mantled Ground Squirrel watched me from up the ridge toward Mosquito Pk. Birds seen: Clark Nutcracker, Chipping Sparrow, Pine Siskin, Pine Grosbeak (♂), Cassins Finch, & Ruby-crowned Kinglet. A cony called from the talus below the cliffs forming the east face of the ridge. The west slope is gradual & timbered to within 15-30 ft. of the east face.

I hiked on the trail around the west side of Mosquito Pk & down to a saddle above Glacier Lake & a trail jet with the Grant Creek Trail. I descended toward Glacier Lake on the trail & then dropped cross country to the head of the lake and sat for an hour below the cliffs at the head of the lake where the snow extends down the mtn (Mosquito Pk) to the lake shore. Here I watched & listened for rosy finches. I heard or saw several species: Varied Thrush, Winter Wren, Cassins Finch, Spotted Sandpiper, Common Merganser (♀ + 9 young), ~~and~~ Oregon Junco, Mtn Bluebird, Audubon Warbler, Canada Jay, Evening Grosbeak, Pine Siskin, cony, & Golden-mantled Ground Squirrel.

I returned again to the trail on the ridge but then hiked northwest to next main peak which overlooks the cirque ~~peak~~ above Saunders Lake. This is one of the most likely places I've seen in these mtns to find rosy finches. The cliffs are especially vertical and free of trees. There is ample snow below. I saw no indication of any birds after 15 minutes but there could easily be some. I did not



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

July 6

Mosquito Pk & vicinity, Missoula Co., Montana

hike down below where the nests would probably be. I return south to the trail and back to Mosquito Pk where I ascended to the summit & ate for 20 minutes. No birds were seen but I did see a Golden-mantled Ground Squirrel. I continued south above the east face to a large offset in the wall & a chute, which I descended about one half way to the lake & then climbed out to the side & watched. A Rock Wren sang vigorously and a Red-Shafted Flicker flew overhead. Oregon Junco, Siskins & a Varied Thrush (below) were heard. In the lake below were a family of 4 young & 1 ♀ Common Goldeneye. I remained here for about 40 minutes & at 7 PM I descended toward the lake & then headed right (south) across the talus & up the snow to a notch leading to Worden Lake. I hiked out by way of Worden Lake and drove down Lake Creek & explored the other roads in the Rattlesnake Creek drainage. Spent the night near a creek near the end of Rattlesnake Creek Road.

July 7

Missoula to Yellow Bay, Montana

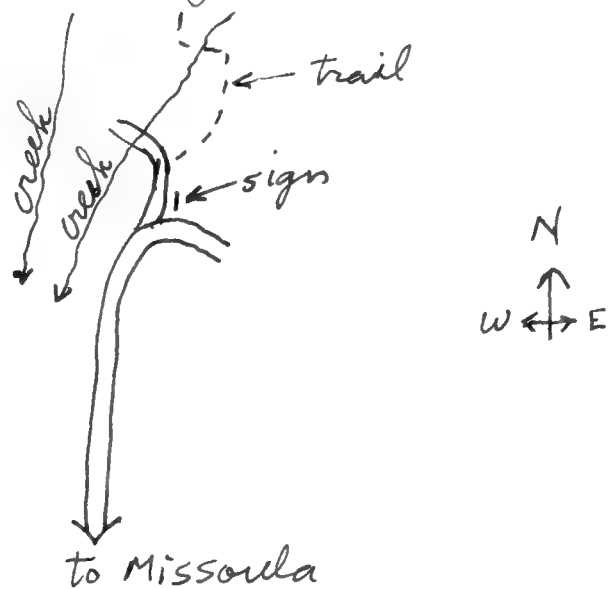
According to my maps a trail continues up canyon beyond the end of the road where I camped & this trail leads to Crazy Fish Lake. A sign at road end indicates the distance as  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles. However the location of the trail is not at all evident because of the disturbance caused by recent logging. I searched for the trail



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969July 7 Missoula to Yellow Bay, Montana

for 20 minutes ~~before~~ locating it. The location is as follows:



This trail should be the closest approach route to McLeod Pk (8400 ft.), the highest peak in the Rattlesnake group & 600 ft taller than Mosquito Pk (which with one other peak is second highest). McLeod Pk is covered with fresh snow while Mosquito Pk is not, perhaps indicating that the added height & its location closer to the Mission Range gives it a more alpine character. However the ~~south~~ side of the peak is very rounded rather than rugged, ie no cliffs for Ross Finches. A lake on its northeast side may, however, indicate the presence of a cirque.

Since a storm was again covering the area, I drove back to Missoula. The distance from the Jct of the Lake Creek & Rattlesnake Creek Rds to pavement north of Missoula is  $14\frac{1}{2}$  miles.

In Missoula I picked up mail, washed me, the car & my clothes and then drove north to





## Journal

R. E. Johnson  
1969

July 7. Missoula to Yellow Bay, Montana

Yellow Bay State Park on the east shore of Flathead Lake for the night. Rain continued through the night.

July 8 Yellow Bay to Glacier National Park, Montana

Drove to West Glacier and obtained a permit to collect six Rosy Finches with a gun from the area south of Logan Pass. Drove across the park to St. Mary where I met the Sharpes, then drove on to East Glacier and visited with Paula Corson. Returned to St. Mary for the night.

July 9 Glacier National Park, Montana

Hiked from Logan Pass around the west side of Mt. Reynolds & down into the basin upstream from Twin Lakes & Florence Falls accompanied by Gloria & Ruth Sharpe. Collected one Rosy Finch. Other species: Pine Siskin, Mtn. Bluebird, Townsend Solitaire, Clark Nutcracker, Robin, Water Pipit & White-tailed Ptarmigan. All were seen in the Logan Pass area. Few birds were seen south of Mt. Reynolds & these only Water Pipits. Returned to St. Mary & stuffed the Rosy Finch.

A beautiful sunny day.

July 10 Glacier National Park, Montana

Returned again to Logan Pass area with Gloria & Ruth. Collected 6 Rosy Finches. Saw a flock of about 20, plus a few lone individuals.



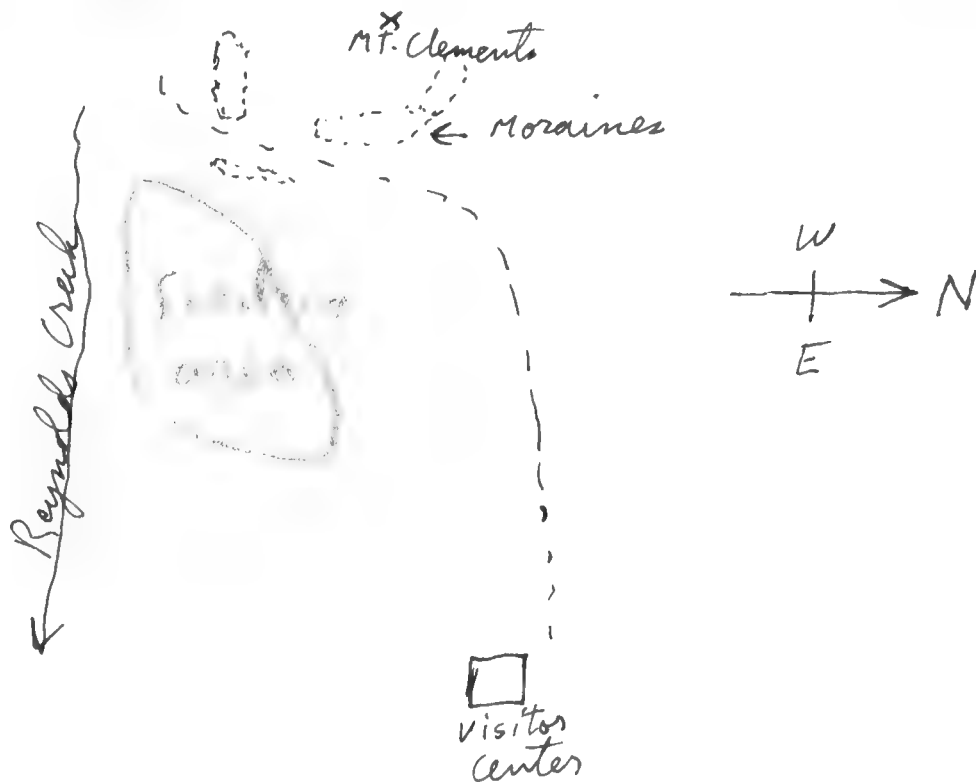
R.E. Johnson  
1969

# Journal

July 10

## Glacier National Park, Montana

They seem to prefer Feeding north of the upper end of Reynolds Creek but well below the Hidden Pass trail & Clements moraine



Other species seen: Cliff Swallow, Raven, Water Pipit, & White-tailed Ptarmigan. Gloria & Ruth saw a ♀ Ptarmigan with 5 chicks. I located a Water Pipit nest sw of the visitor center containing 5 eggs at 4:30 PM. I flushed the ♀ off the nest which was in an east facing bank of heather.

Rain in midafternoon & cloudy thereafter.

July 11

## Glacier National Park, Montana

Drove to East Glacier to visit with Paula & to Two Medicine to skin the Rosy Finches & camp. Slept on the beach during a roaring wind storm. A little rain fell at 5 AM, otherwise it was a perfect night. The wind was fantastic & sang beautiful music all night and created



## Journal

R.E.W. Johnson  
1969

July 11

Glacier National Park Montana  
Large waves on the lake.

July 12

Glacier Nat. Park to Mission Mtns, Montana

Drove back to East Glacier ~~and~~ then to West Glacier via US Hwy 2. In route explored various dirt roads near Gary Lookout that might lead close to Nyeack ~~or~~ Great Northern mtns. It appears that to approach these mtns one must climb a long way through brush. No road approaches Timberline.

Drove on to Kalispell then south to St. ~~Ignace~~ Ignatius area & up a road on a ridge just nw of Ashley Creek. Got the car stuck on a deeply rutted & washed out logging road. Couldn't find the trail up the ridge that was to lead to McDonald Peak but did find a trail that leads down into Ashley Creek. This latter trail does not appear on Hal Kanzler's Map of the Mission Mountains. I returned to the main road & inquired of a rancher who said I should simply follow the ridge up from the logging road & sooner or later a good ridge trail would appear.

Drove south then east & up Mission Creek above the lake and camped beside the roaring creek.



# Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

July 13 McDonald Pk, Mission Mtns, Montana

Drove to St. Ignatius for gas & there met a fellow who told me it was better to approach McDonald Pk via Ashley Creek & then up the SW slope to either the east or west summit or to the saddle between than it was to follow the ridge trail. He said the ridge route is longer & slower; The Creek route would be very brushy in places.

I drove north again & back up the old logging road above Ashley Creek. I decided to follow the ridge route to the pk. From where I parked the car, I hiked on up the logging road ~~which~~ rather than heading for the ridgetop immediately. When the road became completely overgrown I headed uphill to the right until I met another logging road which I again followed uphill to the ne. When it ~~there~~ ended I ascended <sup>to the</sup> right to the ridge top where I found a trail. The trail does not follow the crest of the ridge all of the time but has switchbacks, etc. Eventually this ridge, which runs ne, intersects another ridge coming from the nw and from this ~~later~~ junction a ridge continues <sup>east</sup> up to the west summit of McDonald Pk (9300 ft.). The logging roads of course were in timber. Timber continues to the junction of the ridges where it thins out but continues somewhat higher along the south slopes. It drops out completely by 8000 ft.

Cliffs are most highly developed on the north face





R.E. Johnson  
1969

Journal

July 13

McDonald Pk, Mission Mtns, Montana

of the ridges & peak but there are also cliffs on the south. I left the car at 11 AM & reached the west summit by 2 PM after a leisurely, though steep, hike. I had looked for rosy finches since I reached the main ridge but none were seen up to & including the summit. I continued east down the ridge to the saddle between the peaks. From the saddle one can walk out on the glacier that extends down the north side of the ridge & up the NW face of East McDonald Pk. While standing on the saddle I heard chirping young rosy finches. In a short time I located two nest sites, each in vertical cracks in the north facing cliffs above the glacier & just east of the saddle. Adults were flying to & from the nests feeding the young. I collected 3 adults here. After waiting over another without seeing a fourth adult, I returned again to the west summit where I heard another Rosy Finch. Shortly I discovered it was feeding young in a nest on the north face. I collected the adult. I descended down the south face to a level below most of the cliffs & then started around to the west toward the ridge. Shortly I encountered at least 4 different rosy finches which acted as though they had nests nearby. Chirping young was heard once. I collected one adult. When I reached the west ridge I met another

Note: a new topo map is now available:  
Mount Harding, 1965 7.5 minute series

It mislabels the so. summit near McDonald Pk as  
West McDonald Pk. Actually this name  
applies to the lower pk further west. This map  
gives new elevations for the pks:

West McDonald Pk 9417 ft.

McDonald Pk 9820 ft.

# Journal

R.E. Johnson  
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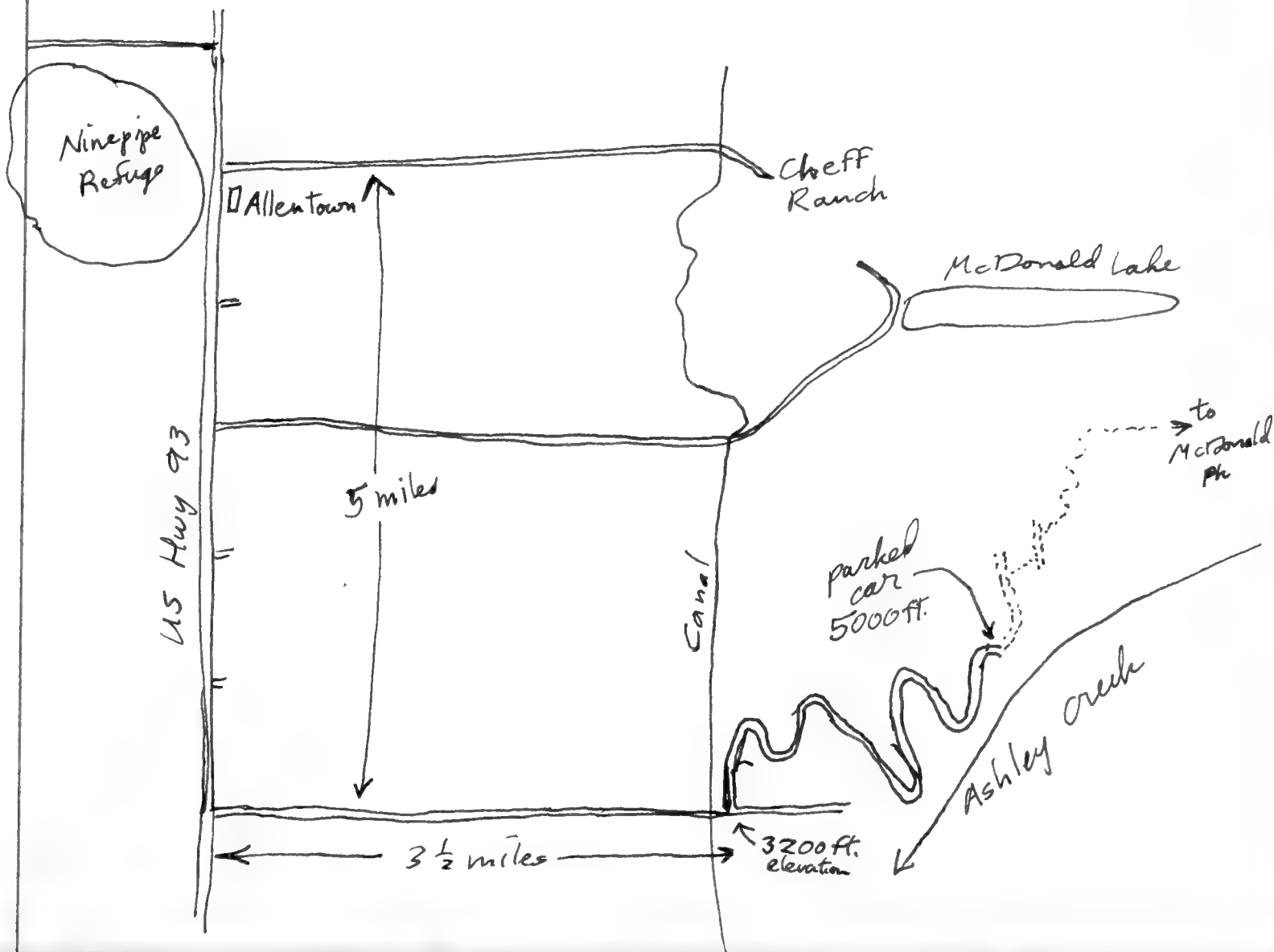
July 13

McDonald Pk, Mission Mtns, Montana

rosy finch and collected it, making six for the day. It was now about 9:30 PM and I had a long way to go, some of it without the aid of well defined trails. I ran much of the way back to the car, then drove again to Mission Creek and camped.

Addenda: A full day of collecting could easily have <sup>gotten</sup> ~~been~~ a dozen birds. Those on the south slope would have been easy to get had I had time. Most nests were accessible without ropes but would have required perhaps  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour each to reach.

There were a number of <sup>small</sup> green meadows below the saddle to the south where Ptarmigan & Pipits could occur.





# Journal

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July 14 Missoula, Montana

Drove to Missoula. Picked up & answered mail, showered, skinned 3 birds, and examined the rosy finches in the Univ. of Montana collection. These include:

Pioneer Range	1 <u>atrata</u>
Highland Mtns.	3 ad. <u>atrata</u> + 3 Juv.
Flint Creek Range	3 <u>atrata</u> + 1 <u>tephro.</u>
Tobacco Root Mtns.	3 <u>atrata</u>
Big Belt Mtns.	3 <u>atrata</u>
Crazy Mtns	1 <u>atrata</u>
Little Belt Mtns	2 <u>atrata</u> , 1 <u>tephro.</u> , 1 hybrid
Mission Mtns	2 <u>tephro</u>
Bitterroot Mtns.	1 <u>atrata</u> , 1 <del>tephro.</del> hybrid
Glacier Park	7 <u>tephro</u> + 10 Juv.
Anaconda Range	1 Juv.
Beartooth	many

July 15 Missoula, Montana

Skinned the remaining 3 rosy finches, did laundry, bought groceries & white gas, and Finally drove up Rattlesnake Creek to the trail leading to Crazy Fish Lake (see July 7).

July 16 McLeod Pk. 8400 ft., Missoula Co., Montana

Hiked up trail toward Crazy Fish Lake. The trail crosses a low divide & descends a slight way to a shallow but good sized lake which has no sign on it. Fish (6-12 inches) are abundant & unwary. A smaller & shallower

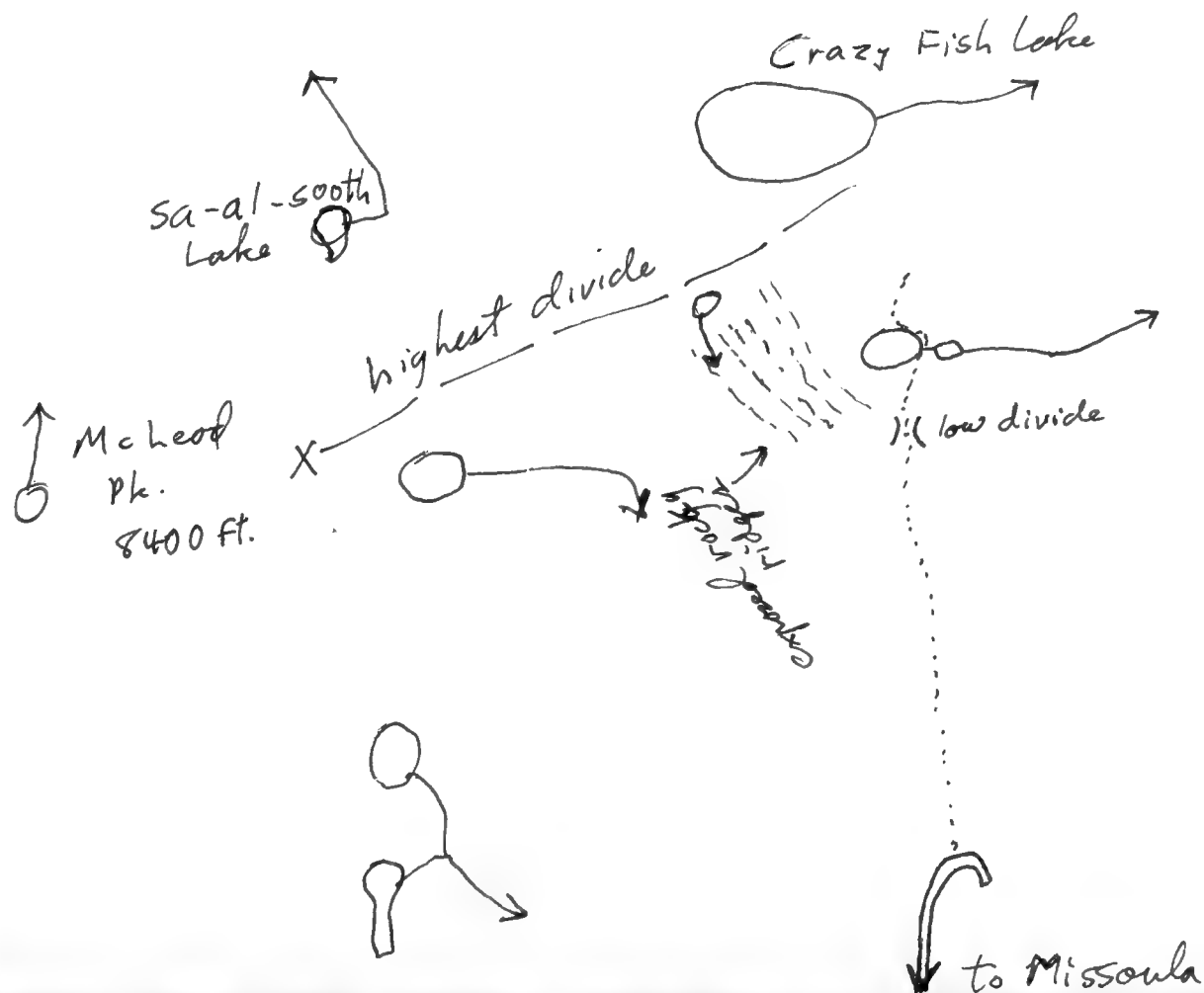


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1969

# Journal

July 16 McLeod Pk, Missoula Co, Montana

lake is located just below the outlet of the first lake. The trail crosses the creek between the lakes & continues around the north shore of the larger lake & peters out. The trail could be followed further by watching for trail blaze signs on trees but it is clear this trail is no longer in use. I suspect it continues north over a ridge & drops to a still larger lake which the Missoula District, Lolo Nat. Forest Map calls Crazy Fish Lake (the Choteau 1:250,000 topo map calls it Lake Sa-of-Sooth). I returned south to the low divide above the First lake. The divide is wooded but exposed rock ridges (running in a nw-se direction) can be seen <sup>upslope</sup> to the west. I hiked to these and continued n and w. on these toward McLeod Pk.







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McLeod Pk, Missoula Co., Montana

West of the first small lake I located a <sup>Oregon</sup> Juncos nest containing 4 very light blue eggs (red spots wide the large end) located in a clump of bear grass & facing south. A larger lake sits in the cirque on the ne face of McLeod Pk and a waterfall drops from the lake. Below the falls I saw a Mule Deer, a Hoary Marmot, Conies, Oregon Juncos & Clark Nutcrackers. Plants included scattered White-bark Pine, <sup>& Alpine Fir</sup> Glaciers Lily, Buttercups, Bear Grass, Red Heather, Pasqueflower, & Spring Beauty. There were a number of large snow patches.

In the cirque above snow lined the s & e. shores of the lake. There are scattered WB Pine & Alpine Fir on most slopes but very few <sup>above</sup> the s & e. sides of the lake where the slopes are steepest with the most extensive cliffs. A ♀ Goldeneye was ~~bug~~ diving in the lake. Mtn Bluebird, Mtn Chickadee, & Nutcrackers were common. Three Juv Pine Squirrels hid from me in a hole about 20 ft up in a 3" dbh White-bark Pine.

I hiked uphill to the north & followed the ridge to the lake. Oregon Juncos, Mtn Bluebirds & Townsend Solitaires were seen.

The top of ~~Mc~~Leod Pk. is rounded & extensive. There are small trees in protected areas. Large snow patches occur on the north & east slopes. The rocks on top are covered with a



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July 16

McLeod Pk, Missoula Co., Montana

black crisp lichen. Lady bird Beattles are common.



} pattern of beattles

White-barked Pine & Alpine Fir cover the south slope.

Plants include Spotted Saxifrage, Dwarf Huckleberry, Stonecrop, Cinquefoil, Bistort, & Creeping Juniper.

Black Swifts (?) Flew overhead. Townsend Solitaires were fairly common. Mtn Bluebirds were very common along the ridge top south of the lake. Several conies were heard. Oregon Juncos could be heard singing from various trees on the slopes of the cirque above the lake.

I sat for 1/2 hour in each of several places along the top & partway down the cirque. Once I thought I heard the faint distant note of an adult rosy finch & another time the faint voices of young. However since I listened from many places & never heard a distinct rosy finch note, I'm ~~am~~ positive I was wrong & there are no rosy finches. I spent 6 hours listening for them.

The view from the top includes Arlee, Point Six, Nine Pipe Refuge, Sa-of-sooth Lake, Crazy Fish lake and a number of unnamed lakes to the south & west.

The most alpine looking cliffs in the range appear to be the north faces of Mosquito Pk, Murphy



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July 16

McLeod Pk, Missoula, Montana.

pk & the peak between them (which I visited on July 6) and of course the ne cirque on McLeod Pk. Since I have examined 3 of these 4 locations & found no native breeding Rosy Finches (but did find one stray littoralis), it appears they do not breed in this range.

I returned to the car & drove to Missoula, showered, shaved, ate, & drove to East Glacier arriving at 1:30 AM.

July 17

Crypt Lake, Waterton National Park, Canada.

Paula Corson & I drove from East Glacier to Waterton, Canada & obtained a boat ride across the lake to Crypt Landing. From there we hiked to Crypt Lake. Mileages were:

Hell Roaring Falls	1½
Twin Falls	2
Burnt Rock Falls	3
Tunnel	5
Crypt Lake	5½

Crypt Lake still has large snow banks on portions of its south & west shores in the shadows of the surrounding cliffs. Large snowbergs ~~break~~ off from these & float in the lake. Several rosy finches were seen feeding near the shore at various times. We also saw a Wolverine running down a snowfield from the ridge to



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July 17

Crypt Lake Waterton National Park, Canada

the east. We saw a Grizzly Bear above the east shore near the outlet. At first it did not see us as it was heading north (toward the tunnel). Then it stopped, apparently getting a scent. Shortly it turned and ran up to the southeast & out of our sight. We saw a Mtn Goat near the top of the cirque wall above the sw corner of the lake & 6 more (several young & adults) above the se corner. A very productive day for seeing large mammals. There were 6 other people at the lake & they missed all the wildlife. They were fishing & nearly missed the fish too. They caught 2. We were picked up by a boat at the landing at 8:30 PM.

~~July 18~~

We drove back to USA to St. Mary & bought some cube steaks & drove to Two Medicine Picnic Area & cooked dinner. Then back to East Glacier before 1 AM lock out. I returned to Two Med. & camped on the beach.

July 18

Glacier National Park to Cabinet Mtns, Montana

Drove from Two Medicine to East Glacier, then to Cardston, Canada, to check on Canadian postal services, then back to East Glacier & over US 2 to Headquarters to leave a note for Ritey McLelland, then to Kalispell & Libby & south over the Bull Lake Road along the west side of the Cabinet Mtns to Montana Hwy 200 & then east on it to the Rock Creek Rd which I followed (with considerable difficulty due to high center rocks, & steepness) to an old mine some distance short of





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July 18 Glacier National Park to Cabinet Mtns, Montana

Rock lake but at about the same elevation (4900 ft.). Only the last couple miles are really bad & these required my removing rocks from the road & taking several runs at a number of spots. The car engine got very hot. The road is impassable (due to a boulder slide) above the mine area. It is clear that Rock Pk (7563) which lies to the west of Rock Lake has ample alpine zone for song finches. However it is not as easy to reach as Ojibway Pk (7291) which lies immediately east of the road & can be reached by simply ascending the rock slides above the road. It seems likely Ojibway Pk & adjacent peaks (Twin Pks, 7528 ft.; Lost Horse Mtn, 7483 ft.) have similar alpine habitat though I can not see the appropriate sides of these mtns to be certain. Because of the easy access I will climb Ojibway Pk tomorrow.

## Rock Creek Road information:

Distance from Montana #200:

to Jct. East Fork Rock Lake	5.6 miles
to Cabinet Wild Area	8.6 miles
to Rock Meadow	9.1 miles
to Rock Lake	11.6 miles

The route follows the East Fork road through the meadow, past the Falls & trail head (to the lake) & follows the road posted "hazardous" up the large switchback road scar.



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July 19

Ojibway Pk, Cabinet Mtns, Montana

Walked north of the road to the mine and then climbed uphill to the right (east) & continued to the top of the first unnamed ~~peak~~ <sup>(7158 ft.)</sup> south of Ojibway Pk. The west slope which I ascended is mostly talus or slightly larger rocks. There are occasional White-barked Pine & Alpine Fir trees of 5-10 ft. height. Bear grass & huckleberry occur in places. The east is steeper with some cliffs & snow but is probably not alpine enough for rosy finches. However the north face of the next peak to the south (Lost Horse Mtn, 7483 ft.) is probably ideal for them since it has extensive cliffs & considerable snow. Rock Lake can be seen from this low peak.

I hiked north down to a pass & then up to the ridge between Ojibway Pk (7291 ft.) & Twin Peaks (7528 ft.) & immediately heard a rosy finch down the north side. Shortly one flew up & landed on a nearby White-bark Pine & I collected it (♂) at 11:30 AM. Subsequently others were heard but none close enough to collect. The ridge has <sup>small</sup> WB Pine & Alpine Fir on the top as well as north & south slopes but they are widely spaced. The rocks are covered with a black lichen. Plants include Spotted Saxifrage, Huckleberry, & Creeping Juniper. Pine Siskins are the most common bird but Nutcrackers & Hummingbirds were also seen.

Walked the ridge 1/2 way to Twin Peaks (7528) and noted



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Ojibway Pk, Cabinet Mtns, Montana

that the ridge becomes ~~more~~ less alpine even though it becomes higher. It seemed unlikely that there would be rosy finches so I turned around & retraced my steps westward & continued on to the top of Ojibway. There is considerable snow north of the gap between Twin & Ojibway Pks & also snow on Ojibway but apparently none on Twin Pks. On the ridge leading to Ojibway Pk I saw a flock of 30 Pine Siskins in a small clump of Alpine Fir trees. There are no trees near the summit. Vegetation includes Creeping Juniper, Sedge, Spotted Saxifrage, & White Heather (*Cassiope* & *Phyllodoce*). Lady Bugs & White-cabbage Butterflies are abundant & swarming. I noted some variability in the pattern on the elytra of the lady bugs:



I tried going down the nw ridge in route to Elephant Pk and it was not too inviting. It is choked with scrubby alpine fir & requires climbing up & down & around rock outcrops & small cliffs. This was too awkward while carrying a Kelly Pack so I returned back to the summit of Ojibway & down the ridge the way I had come. ~~On~~ [On the nw ridge I found some goat wool on a rock]

I continued down to the road & then hiked on up to Rock Lake to determine the easiest route from the road, which is several hundred feet above the lake, down to the lake & a trail that goes around the west shore. However, before I could find a reasonable route, I



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July 19

Ojibway Pk, Cabinet Mtns, Montana

stumbled upon a young couple swimming (?) + loving (for sure!) ala natural. I left the area post-haste & returned to the car and skinned the rosy finch.

It is now obvious that I made the wrong decision regarding which peak to climb. I chose Ojibway Pk because it was easiest to reach but I couldn't see it well enough to evaluate its alpine habitat. It turns out it & Twin Pks have very little such habitat. Lost Horse Mtn has a little more. Elephant Pk (7925 ft.) has abundant alpine but it is difficult to reach from Ojibway Pk.

It would have been more profitable to climb Rock Pk (7563) or Elephant Pk by hiking around Rock Lake to Milwaukee Pass (6000 ft.) & then up the ridge to the left (west) to Rock Pk or right (east) to Elephant.

July 20

Rock Pk, 7563<sup>ft.</sup>, Sanders Co., Montana Cabinet Mtns.

Last night I drove the car down to the first water along the "hazardous" road. This morning I continued down to the Rock Lake trail at the <sup>lower</sup> end of "hazardous" road. Then I hiked up this trail to Rock Creek, ~~the~~ crossed the outlet & followed a trail along the west side of the lake (climbs well above the lake). This trail ends about even with the upper end of the lake. I hiked uphill to the west on dry rocky slopes rather than fight alder thickets, etc along the stream which runs up canyon (north). Later I descended to the





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July 20

Rock Pk, 7563 ft., Cabinet Mtns, Sanders Co., Montana  
 stream again when the canyon bottom had become meadowy. From here on to Milwaukee Pass (6000 ft.) the route was open & easy. The meadows would seem like an excellent place for Hoary Marmots but none were seen, nor are there any positive records from anywhere in the Cabinet Mtns. These meadows have rock ledges & slides on both sides and a sizeable stream running down the center. Large deep snow patches still bridge the creek & cover the entire canyon floor in some cases. Glacier Lilies, Bear-grass and numerous other species abound. I saw a number of Columbian Ground Squirrels. A Golden Eagle soared over the east slopes of Rock Peak. I saw one Dipper in upper Rock Creek before reaching Milwaukee Pass. The pass has scattered White-bark Pine <sup>Mtn. Hemlock</sup> & Alpine Fir but is mostly open & dominated by exposed rock outcrops. Plants include Lyall Penstemon (very common), Glacier Lily, Mt. Ash, Sedge, Bear Grass, White Heather (Cassiope), Alum Root, St. John's Wort, Mariposa Lily & Sandwort. Birds at the pass include: Clark Nutcracker, Chipping Sparrow, Rufous Hummingbird, White-crowned Sparrow, <sup>+ Pine Siskin</sup> ~~White-crowned Sparrow~~. Down canyon I also saw a Red-Shafted Flicker & a Robin. There have been goat tracks & wool all along the way (includes along the trail above the lake). From the pass I can see ~~two~~ <sup>two</sup> Mtn. Goat about  $\frac{1}{2}$  way up the east side of Rock Peak. On the pass there is an old mine shaft. Considerable quartz & traces of copper appear in the rocks. The view from the pass includes Rock Lake, Gijway Pk, Lost Horse Mtn., & Flattop Mtn to the south, Rock Pk to the west & several peaks to the north - apparently, Ibex Pk, & Snowshoe Pk, & St. Paul Lake.



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July 20

Rock Peak, 7563 ft., Cabinet Mtns, Sanders Co., Montana

I ascended Rock Pk by following up the ridge leading west from Milwaukee Pass & then when I encountered cliffs along the ridge, I shifted to the snowy ledges of the east face until I reached the summit. No difficulties in climbing the peak. A short way up the ridge from the pass one can look around the north side of Rock Pk & <sup>also</sup> see St. Paul Pk (7697 ft.). The north face is rugged broken cliffs covered with small firs & pines. The lower part of the cliffs forms a large cirque wall (unbroken) which runs clear around to St. Paul Pk. The crest of these cliffs is at about 6500 ft.

Once on the snowy east side of Rock Pk the going was mostly over snow. The edges of each tier of snow had melted out & ~~meadows~~ meadows were appearing. The habitat looks good for Ptarmigan - almost! There is too much snow & too little meadow exposed. I did run onto two Water P. pits that were feeding at least one juv. out of the nest. Near the summit I heard a Rosy Finch fly from the SE I believe & I saw it drop a fecal pellet from the nest as it flew over the crest & dropped down the north side of the pk (11:30 AM). I had sat below the cliffs on the east face while I ate lunch & I heard or saw no Rosy Finches. At this time (2:30 PM) I still <sup>have</sup> ~~seen~~ seen or heard no additional ones. I found another (very likely not one of the previous goats) Mtn. Goat on the upper north face of the peak.

The rocks of the summit are covered with black crisp



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July 20

Rock Pk., 7563 Ft., Cabinet Mtns, Sanders Co., Montana

leafy lichen & the more flat green lichen. Lady Bugs are present on the summit in good numbers. There are two cairns on top, one on the north summit where the lady bugs are, & another on the higher south summit where there are large numbers of flying ants. Common plants are Lyall Penstemon & White Heathers (Cassiope). There is also some Phylocladus but not in bloom. On the upper north face are Spotted Saxifrage & Creeping Juniper.

Rosy Finch nesting places (cliffs near snow) could be on the upper east side or on the lower north side, <sup>ie. unbroken cliffs.</sup> The upper north face is not particularly alpine (trees, no snow, dry). The east face is the most alpine (most snow, ~~the~~ water, & meadow). The lower north face has quite a bit of snow below the unbroken cliffs, but much less than the east face & has no meadows & water.

The view from the summit includes the Reservoir behind Cabinet Dam on the Clark Fork, the western Cabinet Mtns (near Scotchman Pks - this area has more alpine looking country than I realized), Bull Lake, & parts of all 3 Libby Lakes on the south slope of Elephant Pk.

I descended the ne ridge toward Milwaukee Pass and sat at about 7300 ft. overlooking the north face. Two adult & 2 young Mtn Goats passed below me in a group. Two Rosy Finches raced passed me coming from somewhere to the west of me on the north face. They continued over the ridge & dropped out of sight. I tried to follow them down the ridge & etc but hadn't the



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Rock Pk, 7563 ft., Cabinet Mtns., Sanders Co., Montana

slightest idea where to go to locate them. I followed the goat trail (which I'd seen the 4 goats on) across the north face & returned again. Then I moved slowly across the east face of the peak walking on the snow, <sup>just</sup> below the main upper cliffs. I stopped at 4 spaced locations & watched & listened for about 30 minutes (at each location). This carried me far ~~se~~ of any place I'd been before. Still no sign of rose finch nesting activity. I followed a snowy bench down to the north, <sup>to about 200 ft.</sup> & then climbed back up to where I'd seen the Water Pipits and I collected one, since I'd not seen any in the Cabinet Mtns on my previous visits (July 31 - Aug 1., Aug. 6 - 10, 1967). Descended to the north reaching the broad rocky part of the ridge which I then descended to the north & then west. I continued west & a bit south under the unbroken cliffs of the <sup>lower</sup> north face of Rock Pk. I sat for  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour (8:30 - 9:00 PM - still quite light but sun had set on all but one small part of lower cliffs) watching for rose finches. Nothing. Hiked back to the east to Milwaukee Pass & down ~~the~~ Rock Creek to the car. Noted Hermit Thrushes singing & Saw Two Stellar Jays below the cliffs of the lower north face.

Yesterday I had guessed that Ojibway Pk was a poor place for Rose Finches because it had little alpine habitat and that Rock Pk would have abundant





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Rock Pk, 7563 Ft., Cabinet Mtns, Sanders Co., Montana  
rosy finches because it is by far the snowiest  
peak, & with ~~ample~~ <sup>cliffs</sup> ~~peaks~~, that I've seen since  
I left the Wallowa Mtns. However I only saw 3  
rosy finches & collected none on Rock Peak in a long  
day of hunting whereas I saw or heard perhaps a dozen  
rosy finches in a shorter time on Osibway Pk! How  
do you explain that?

If I ever go back to this area I will plan to  
go to Elephant Pk which is the highest of this  
southern cluster of peaks & has a glacier on the  
north side. Surely I could find birds there (?).

This was a beautiful (scenery & ~~into~~ weather) day  
but rather discouraging.

Attenda: I saw many more mtn goats than reported here, as  
well as tracks, bedding places & wool on rocks & trees. Goats were  
very common. On the way down from Milwaukee Pass  
I thought I heard a Hoary Marmot calling from above  
me on the east slope above the meadows on rock creek ( $\frac{1}{2}$  mile  
so. of the pass). I was too close to the creek (roar) to hear  
well however. Conies are abundant all over Rock Pk.



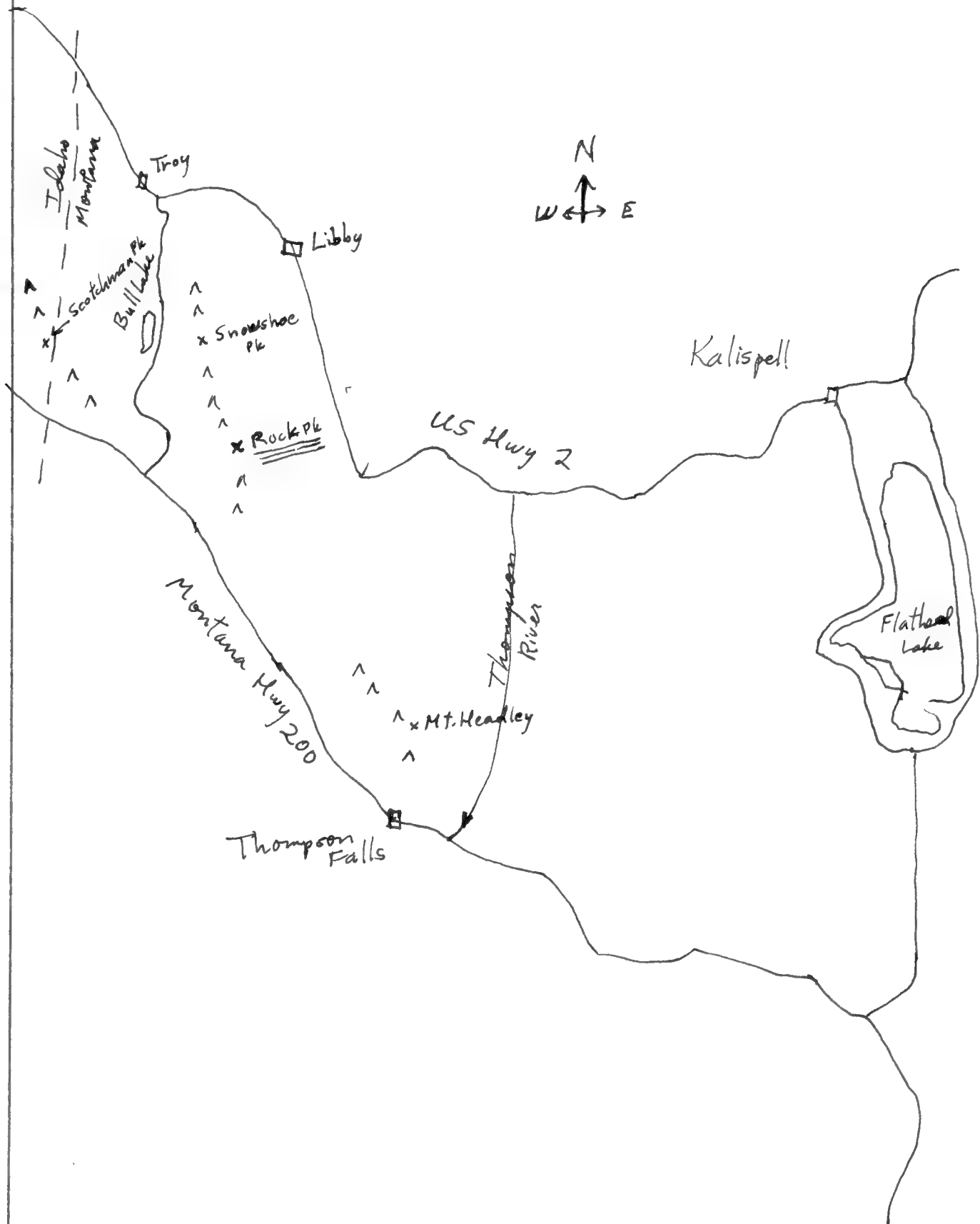
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Cabinet Mtns, Montana



The Cabinet Mtns are the mtns between US Hwy 2 (which follows the Fisher River & then the Kootenai River) on the north and Montana Hwy 200 (which follows the Clark Fork River) on the south. The range is subdivided into several units. The highest is the Cabinet Wilderness area located east of Bull Lake & containing Snowshoe Pk & Rock Pk. West of Bull Lake is another unit containing the Scotchman Pks where I collected rosy finches two years ago. North of Thompson Falls is an

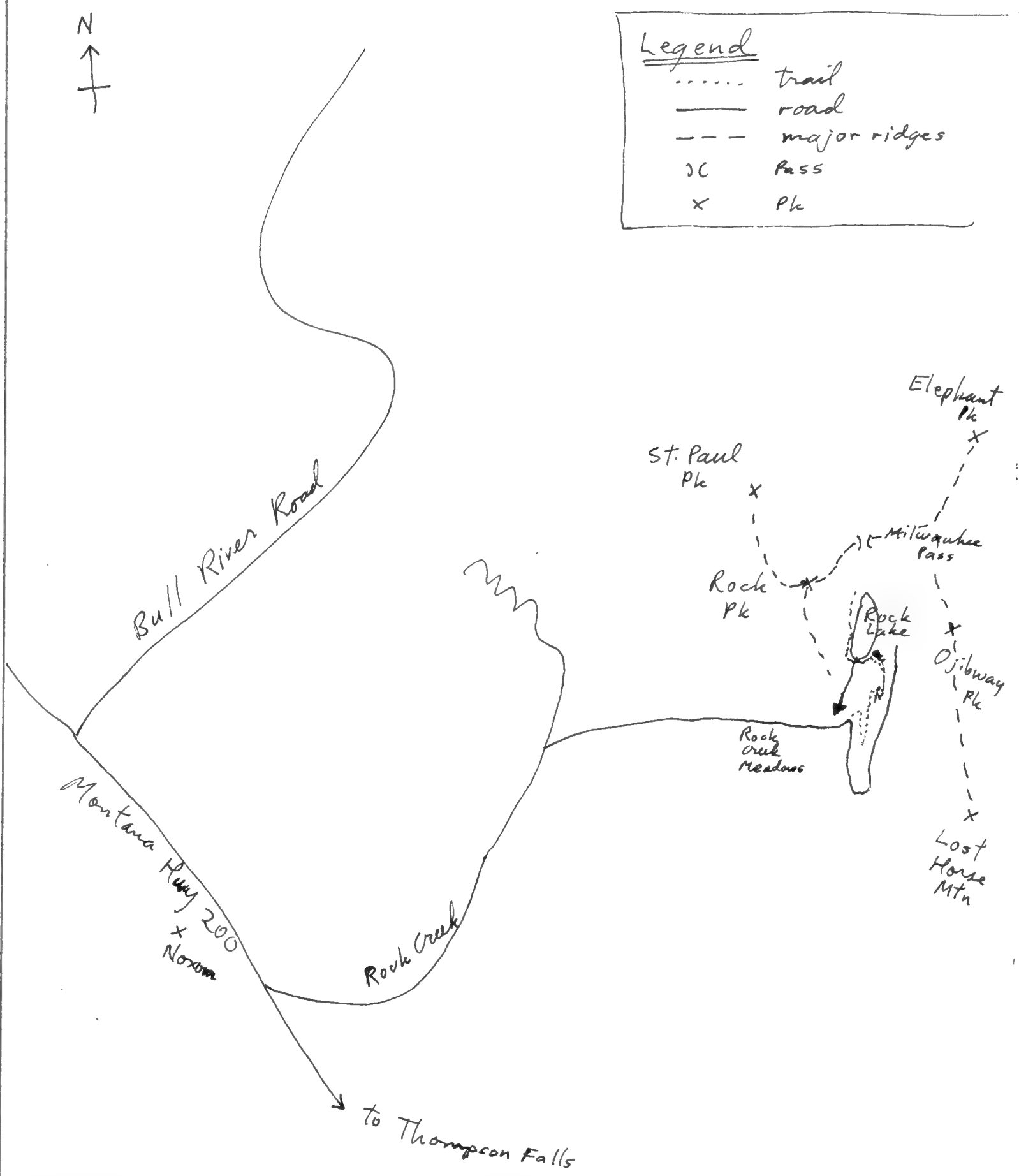


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July 20

Cabinet Mtns, Montana

eastern cluster of peaks which barely touch the alpine zone. These include Mt. Hendley (the highest) & they were examined briefly 2 years ago. The Thompson River forms the eastern boundary of the Cabinet Mtns.





Rosy Finch Specimens From Montana as of July 22, 1969  
♂ | ♀ | Juv.

	<u>MVZ</u>	<u>U of M</u>	<u>Total</u>
Anaconda Range	2/1/13	0/0/1	2/1/14
Bitterroot Range	14/5/6	1/0/0	15/6/6
Crow Pk	0/1/2	0/0/0	0/1/2
Flint Creek Range	4/7/4	3/1/0	7/8/4
Little Belt Mtns.	0/2/5	2/2/0	2/4/5
Big Belt Mtns.	0/0/0	3/0/0	3/0/0
Cabinet Mtns.	3/3/5	0/0/0	3/3/5
Crazy Mtns	0/0/0/1	3/6/0	3/6/0
Highland Mtns.	0/0/1	0/3/3	0/3/4
Pioneer Range	0/0/0	1/0/0	1/0/0
Tobacco Root Mtns.	0/0/0	1/2/0	1/2/0
Glacier Park	5/2/0	4/2/10	9/4/10
Mission Mtns.	5/1/0	2/0/0	7/1/0





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July 21 Missoula, Montana

Drove from Rock Creek (after skinning the Water Pipit) to Missoula to pick up mail. Turns out today was a national holiday because of the Moon Landing so the post office was closed. Day spent on domestic chores: shower, shave, wash car, groceries, laundry, and also locating some film (Agfa rapid) for Paula.

July 22 Missoula, Montana

Spent most of day answering mail. Drove from Missoula to a roadside rest located near the Anaconda turnoff on US Hwy 10 (Interstate 90).

July 23 Butte, Montana

Drove to the Montana School of Mines in Butte & purchased some new <sup>(since 1967)</sup> topographic maps of several areas of Montana including the Rattlesnake Creek drainage north of Missoula. Talked to Mrs. Peck at the School Library & did considerable reading there.

Drove through Anaconda & on west to the Storm Lake Rd & up it into the Anaconda Range. Last year the Forest Service was surveying the road in order to improve it for use as a logging road. Now the road is completed (I think) & is much wider but certainly not better. I got stuck in a mud hole several miles below the first serious mudhole in the old road. It took me 4 #jackings & 2 hours to get the car out. I drove on up beyond where the



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July 23

Butte, Montana

new road, <sup>work</sup> ends & found the old puddles as formidable as ever. Somehow I'd spent my energy & incentive for mud already & I simply turned around & drove back to ~~Anaconda~~ Butte & south of Butte into the Highland Mtns where I know the road well and it is always dry at this time of year. Cheers.— Turns out the Forest Service is reconstructing part of this road also! About 4  $\frac{1}{2}$  miles of road is under contract & was nearly complete (& quite nice, I might add) when funds ran out & now it is going to pot since the drains, etc weren't completed. The last part of the road up to the lookout ~~is~~ is steep & rocky but I've always made it. Turns out the Forest Service has gotten Mr. Stratton to come up with his Cat & tear it to shreds so that it is now nearly impossible to drive over. It took me 4 runs up the last pitch before I made it to the parking area 200 ft. south of the lookout. One has to commend the Forest Service on its efforts to return this area to the roadless area (or wilderness) status!

Visit with a young couple (student at Dillon) on the lookout.



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1969

July 24 Highland Mtns, Montana

A bright sunny warm day. Saw Mtn Bluebirds, an Oregon Junco, & a Cory near the car (9700 ft.) at 6:30 AM. Hiked south up Red Mtn (10,070 ft.) & down the other side toward Monument Pk. There are a few White Bark Pine below the ridge top between the two peaks (on the east slope) & twice I heard a Nuthatch from these. At 9:10 AM I heard the first Rosy Finch of the day along this ridge. At 9:40 AM I saw two more & collected one, a ♂ with buccal sacs full. The other flew south around the east side of Monument Pk. There are two large snow patches just east of the ridge top as one ascends Monument Pk from the north. At 9:50 AM a Rosy Finch landed on the lower snow patch & 2 others fed nearby. One of these 3 flew north & landed near me on the ridge & I collected it (♀ with brood patch). At 10:10 AM two Rosy Finches landed on the upper snow patch & 2 (?) others landed nearby on the rocks. I collected one ♂ on the ridge below the snow at 10:15 AM. At 10:20 AM I collected a ♀ with brood patch on the snow. At 11:00 AM I saw a Vesper Sparrow on the ridge feeding among the rocks & about 5 Mtn. Bluebirds flycatching, hovering, etc on the east slope of Monument Pk.

Finally I continued up Monument Pk & down the south ridge. I saw a Water Pipit on the north slope at 11:10 AM & a Rosy Finch (flying north) & a Red-Shafted Flicker (flying south) on the south ridge at 11:30 & 11:45 AM respectively. At 12 noon



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# Journal

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July 24

Highland Mtns., Montana

I saw a Clark Nutcracker, Raven, Rock Wren, Yellow-bellied Marmot & a Pika just ~~was~~ south of Monument Pk but still on the ridge. From the Lookout to this point (~~the~~ junction of south ridge with steep upslope to Monument Pk) the route has been over red rocky terrain with very little soil development & only a very few plants. At this point there are a number of changes. ① A band of another type of rock cuts across the ridge at this point & garnet & epidote occur at the contact. ② The ridge flattens out on top in places & finally reaches the flat bench that leads <sup>east</sup> to Table Mtn. ③ The vegetation becomes extensive & over the bench gives 90% ground cover. There is a high rocky ridge that runs south above this bench & it has 2 large snow patches on it. A Water Pipit fed on the surface of one of these & others were seen on the meadow (bench). A <sup>Pipit</sup> nest facing east downslope under some Cinquefoil contained 4 brown mottled eggs. I flushed the ♀ & she ~~she~~ flew quietly downslope with her wings held in a shallow V ( \ ) with some fluttering but no normal full wing beats. Two small cold brooks flow down from the larger ~~the~~ snowpatch. A ewe Bighorn Sheep wearing a red neck band of nylon (?) cloth with a blue dashed stripe in it [ — — — — ] was seen drinking from one of these. Plants forming the meadow include: White Heathers (Phyllocladus), Cinquefoil, Shooting Star,





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## Journal

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July 24

### Highland Mtns, Montana

Lupine, Bistort, Grass, Forgetmenot, Carpet Pink, a white Phlox, Penstemon virens, Sandwort, Aster, Sedum & Spotted Saxifrage. [Most common plant near the lookout & on Red Mtn. was Shunk Weed & it is nearly absent near the meadow].

A Townsend Solitaire was seen in the head of the cirque north of the meadow. & a Prairie Falcon flew overhead at 1:40 PM.

I continued east & up Table Mtn, ~~thence~~ following the north edge & circling around above the east face where there are cliffs & large snow patches. Here I heard Rosy Finches on several occasions & finally collected 3 of 4 feeding on a large snow patch on the north ~~edge~~ side of the ridge that runs east to East Peak. ~~There~~ A ♀ & young Mtn Goat fed on a meadow way below on the headwaters of Roaring Brook. Water Pipits were common on top Table Mtn & on the se slope above Hell Canyon Creek. Mtn. Bluebirds & Rock Wrens were also seen. The top of Table Mtn is quite flat & covered with polygons. The vegetation in cirque foil predominantly with some Phlox & a white Crucifer.

A large thunderstorm came over the mtn & my shotgun (lightning rod!) lit up on one occasion. I had to take refuge in the headwaters of Hell Canyon Creek. About 1½ hours later I made a run for it up & down over the peaks before the next front of



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R.E. Johnson  
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July 24

Highland Mtns, Montana

black clouds arrived. The lookout counted well over 200 lightning strikes in the first storm!

I met Dr. Paul Wilson of McDonald-Douglas Aircraft who is studying lightning this summer on the mtn. The mtn is famous for its lightning, especially ball lightning. Wilson wants to determine how to predict when lightning will strike & the conditions which cause it, etc. Practical applications include prevention of unwanted touch-offs of missiles, etc.

I ~~drove~~ back through Butte & Anaconda to a Forest Service campground on US 10 A, several miles <sup>west</sup> ~~east~~ of Anaconda

(See August 30 - Sept 6, 1967 for further notes on Highland Mtns birds & vegetation)

Maps: Twin Bridges 1960 15 min. series topo

Pipestone Pass 1963 7.5 min. series Topo

Whitehall Ranger District Map

Butte Ranger District Map.

These mtns were the prettiest I've ever seen them but I left my camera behind thinking things would look as they had on previous visits. That was a dumb move. I'd never been here when the flowers were in bloom, only when there was snow or in fall when things ~~are~~ are dry.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969July 25 Anaconda area, Montana

Skinned birds most of the day. Talked to Job Corps trainees & leaders for two hours. Drove to Anaconda for milk & a newspaper.

July 26 Short Pk, 10,240 ft., Anaconda Range, Deer Lodge Co., Montana

Drove east from the campground through Anaconda on US 10A ~~to~~ & took a right turn on a road past the east end of the big tailings pond which leads to Wisdom. Followed this over the hills & down the other side to a dirt road (right) leading to Grassy Mtn & lookout. Followed this road to the road junction below, & in sight of, the lookout & then took the left fork toward Ten Mile Creek <sup>at about 8000 ft.</sup>. Parked where the road is closest to the ridge top & thereafter walked to the ridge (north) & then west up the ridge toward Short Pk. The first portion of the ridge is covered by a stand of white-bark Pine. The trees give way to a rocky barren ridge between 8500 & 9000 ft. The ridge has a couple of low (9300 & 9400 ft.) rocky outcrops along it before reaching a slight low (saddle) before the final steep climb to the peak itself. White Dryas is the most common plant along the rocky ridge. Few other things grow there at all. There are a few small snow patches on its north slope. ~~at~~ ~~beginning~~ Beginning at the saddle & continuing up the east face of the peak is a large snow patch. Another is located a short



## Journal

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1969

July 26

Short Pk, 10,240 ft., Anaconda Range, Deer Lodge Co., Montana  
distance higher. Clark Nutcrackers were seen on the wooded part of the ridge and again near the saddle where pines ascend the south slope & nearly to the top. A flock of 6-8 Pine Siskins were seen flying overhead at the saddle. Several Water Pipits were also seen. Mammals include Conies (common), Golden-mantled Ground Squirrels, & a Mtn. Goat (on east face of Short Pk.). A number of Rosy Finches were seen along the western part of the ridge & on the saddle snowbank. Two were on the snowbank at 11:30 AM & one was collected. Others appeared on the upper bank & I followed these northeastward across the face of Short Peak & collected four more. There were several more which finally disappeared. They appeared to feed in a very loose flock, yet the ♀s had brood patches, etc. It was impossible to tell if any of the birds left the flock to feed young in a nest & then returned again. There were no juveniles in the area. Vegetation on the saddle included a white cushiony Phlox, blue Beardstongue, Sedum, Cinquefoil (2 spec.), alpine Forgetmenot, & Dryas.

I continued up to the summit of Short Pk (arrived at 3:30 PM) & saw Water Pipits on top. I walked the ridge for one mile to the west to an unnamed higher peak (10,340 ft.). Along the ridge I found goat wool caught on a rock.

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## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
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July 26 Short Pk., 10240 ft., Anaconda Range, Deer Lodge Co., Montana  
 The three <sup>main</sup> Ten-Mile Lakes could be seen from the <sup>summit</sup> ridge top.  
 There is considerable snow & cliff on the ~~ne~~ side of  
 the unnamed peak & in this vicinity I saw several  
rosy finches but couldn't collect any.

On the return trip I saw two rosy finches  
 & collected one, on the ridge east of Short Pk  
 & east of the saddle. Sun was shining on this  
 part of the ridge whereas the rest of the ridge was  
 now in shadow behind Short Pk. Reached the car  
 about 7 PM. Returned to the campground I used last night.

In the morning I left the car at 10 AM & reached  
 the saddle east of Short Pk at 10:55 AM.

Maps: Phillipsburg, 1908 30 min. series Topo.

Anaconda Forest Protection Service Map

(Short Pk is on Anaconda Co. Land &  
 not Forest Service Land. Therefore  
 it is not included on the Anaconda-  
 Pintlar Wilderness map.)

July 27 Anaconda & vicinity, Montana

Skinned birds, Drove to Missoula & camped in  
 Pattee Canyon. Showered & shaved.

July 28 Missoula, Montana

Took the VW in for its 6000 mile lub. Tried to  
 leave for Canada & the car wouldn't go into high gear,  
 then it jammed in neutral. Was towed to the VW  
 dealer garage where I camped till morning.



# Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

July 29 Missoula, Montana to Flathead, BC

They fixed the car in a hurry (burned out clutch) but I'll be paying for a long time: \$91.60! Ugh. Off again for Canada. Drove north to West Glacier & up the paved North Fork Rd from West Glacier to the ~~Cannoe~~ Creek entrance & then up the dirt & or gravel roads to the old Canadian customs station (abandoned) at Flathead. Continued up this road up the North Fork of the Flathead River. My intention was to find the site of a former town called Flathead which was located west of North Kootenay Pass <sup>(6800 ft.)</sup>. The Fernie 1:250,000 topo map shows a "cart track" leading from Flathead to the pass. I had hoped to drive to the pass & hike from there to nearby peaks (8500 ft.) to hunt rosy finches.

I had considerable difficulty telling exactly where I was as I drove. There are many branches in the road and none are marked, nor are the streams posted. The map shows none of these roads. From the maps I have & others I've seen, I had not expected any other roads. Perhaps these roads I'm finding lead high up the mtns to alpine habitat??

Finally I came to a small cluster of buildings near a sawmill. This turned out to be Flathead & the loggers there told me about the road toward the pass. It starts 100 yds south of Flathead (which is now called Miller's Camp).



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969July 29 Missoula, Montana to Flathead, BC

However the road is washed out in places I was told. My own inspection showed it was covered with downed trees making it impassable. However I noticed a sign (the only sign I'd seen in 30 miles!) pointing to Pollack Lookout on a road that branches off right from the Kootenay Pass Rd. I followed it until I hit more downed trees. I chopped one, later the trees were larger & I had to stop driving. I hiked on up the road to the ridge top & then to the lookout just above timberline. The lookout was present & he wasn't aware that his road was closed. I asked about routes to high peaks & he suggested I try Crevice Lookout but he didn't know where it was. Turned out he didn't know anything about anything. He was the dumbest person I've met in my memory, much lower grade than the lookout in the Highland Mtns. He didn't know what contour lines were, he didn't know the names of the peaks immediately around him, he didn't know the location of the patrol rangers cabin, he couldn't read an ordinary map, let alone a topo, & I'm pretty sure he couldn't find his way from the lookout tower to his home town (Fernie)! I find it hard to believe that he knows how to locate a fire with the fire finder. He couldn't read the map that it sits over.

Finally I hiked back to the car & drove



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969July 29 Missoula, Montana to Flathead, BC.

down to a stream crossing &amp; spent the night-

July 30 Corbin & vicinity, B.C., Canada

Drove north over Flathead Pass & down Michel Creek to a road junction (no signs) where there are a number of cabins (both occupied & unoccupied). Talked to some of the residents & find they call the settlement Corbin, a name that more properly belongs to a nearby ghost town (up the right road branch). I was told to follow Corbin Creek (through the ghost town) to reach timberline by road. This required a troublesome creek fording and I finally had to stop short of the end of the road due to a steep rocky roadbed. I smashed the rt. rear corner of the VW into a stump while backing down. Another \$100 shot! Parked & hiked up the road. In route I found that many of the sedimentary rocks had small thunderegg type inclusions in them, probably of lime & not quartz however. Some of these inclusions have eroded out & occur as round rocks which are very light in weight (hollow) & often rattle. I set some aside to pick up on the return trip. The road leaves the cutover areas of the lower valley, passes through forest for a short distance & deposits you at the base of ~~the~~ rock slides leading to the ridge to the east. I climbed to the pass between the 8100 ft & 8597 ft peaks (see map) & immediately found a number of adult & immature rosy finches. Most of the day's birds were collected at this time (1:40 PM & following). Adults were feeding young (Imm.)



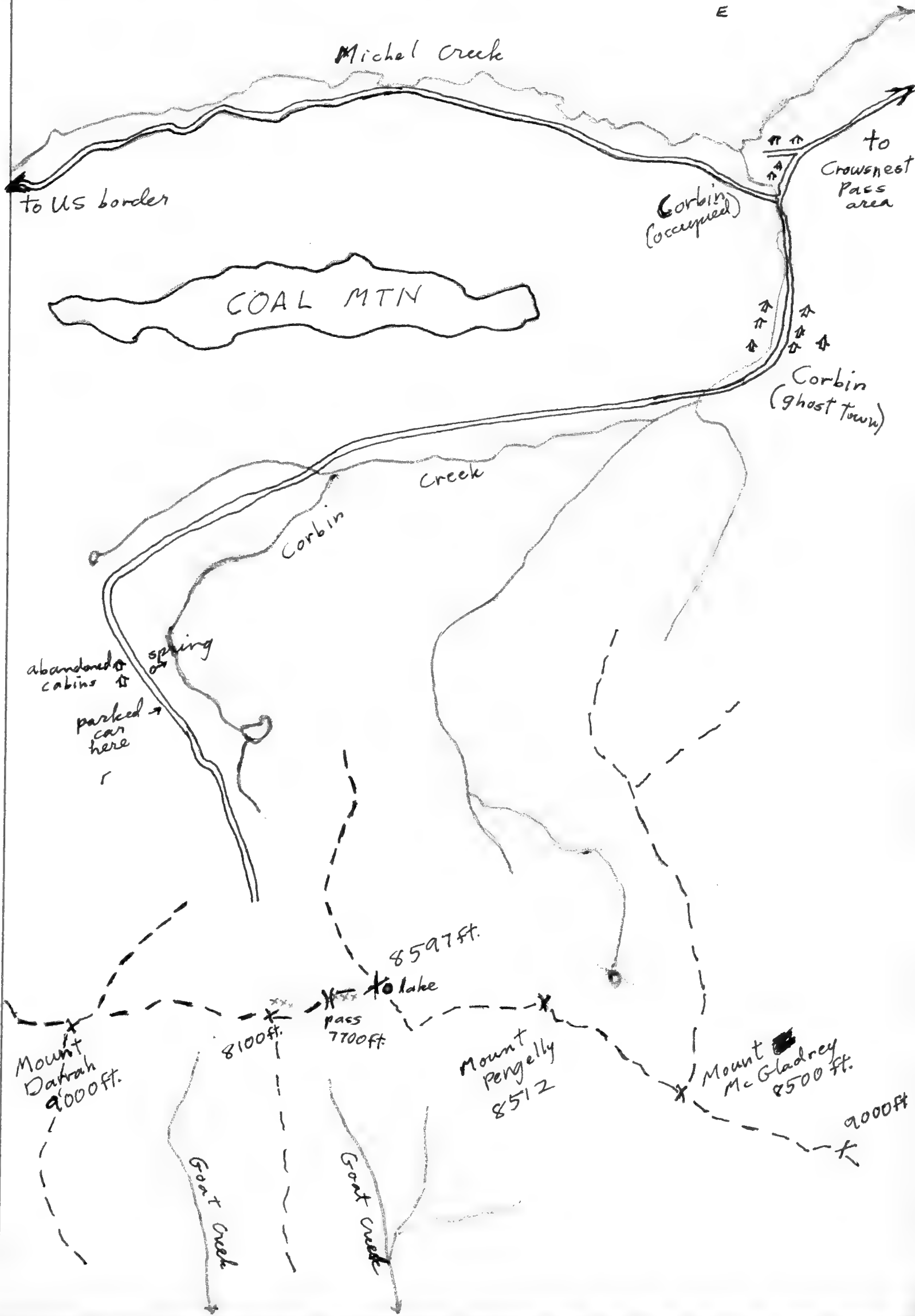
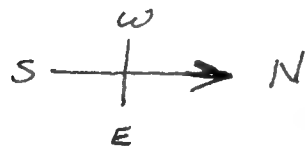


Journal

R.E. Johnson  
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July 30 Corbin & vicinity, BC, Canada

x = areas where rosy finches were seen  
+ or collected





R.E. Johnson  
1969

## Journal

July 30

### Corbin & vicinity, B.C., Canada

birds & the Imma. were also feeding themselves between visits by adults. There were clearly several family groups intermixed in a loose flock which occupied the ridge top & cliffs overlooking the cirque (steep walled) at the head of Goat Creek. Most of the birds were actually in Alberta (the ridgetop forms the BC-Alberta border) by a few yards. When I could find no more birds to collect I headed up the ridge to the 8597 ft. pk where I saw a Water Pipit & a Clark Nutcracker. There is a peculiar little lake which sits just ne of the summit in what looks like a crater (except there are sedimentary intrs). A large snow bank extends down into the lake & feeds it. The lake is about 40 feet across & over 20 feet deep & had 2 large (20 ft.) ice bergs floating in it. There is no stream outlet but water can be heard gurgling out from the ne side. After scouting down the north slope & ne ridge I returned to the top & descended the way I had come where I found a couple more birds on the Alberta side of the ridge. I continued down toward the road & then heard birds above on the rock-slab-sloping <sup>west</sup> face of the ~~the~~ 8100 ft. peak. I returned upward and again found adults feeding young in a loose flock at about 7700 ft elevation. I collected several until it was dark & I raced down to beat the blackness. Collected 15 birds (7 adults + 8 young) for the day. This is pretty good for a day that I started so late on. I didn't leave the car until 11 AM. Conies were common. No signs



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July 30

Corbin & vicinity, BC, Canada

of marmots. Saw a trail, probably Mt. Goat trail. (No other signs - no wool, tracks, bedding places).

Drove down the road to a good creek & camped. Clear, warm weather.

July 31

Corbin & vicinity, BC, Canada

Spent the entire day skinning those 15 Rosy Finches. Clear & warm.

Maps of area: Upper Flathead & Crowsnest 1:50,000 topos  
Fernie 1:250,000 topo.

Aug. 1

Corbin, BC to Banff, Alberta, Canada

Returned up the road to look for more Thunders eggs, then drove back down to Corbin & north to Provincial Hwy 3 which I followed east over Crowsnest Pass & down to Coleman where I turned north on a gravel road (Kananaskis Lake Road) for 139 miles to Trans Canada Hwy 1 which I then followed west to Canmore (for mail & groceries) & Banff (to check on collecting permit & to camp). Turns out Monday will be a holiday in Canada so I'm here on a 3 day weekend & the staff is out & the tourists are in! Quite a crowd. I drove up the road to the Mt. Norquay cable car, ~~the~~ the road to the lower Hot Springs & the road to Lake Minnewanka & then camped at Two Jack <sup>Lake</sup> overflow campground.

Aug. 2

Banff, Alberta, Canada

Took the day off! Washed me, cleaned the car inside & the bugs off the front, aired (dried) the rosy finch skins, read Newsweek,



R.E. Johnson  
1969

## Journal

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Aug. 2

### Banff, Alberta, Canada

US News & World Report & the Spokesman Review & wrote a few post cards. Drove to town (Banff) at noon to mail the cards & someone broke my radio aerial off while I was parked. I thought I left all that nonsense in Berkeley. Drove back to Lake Minnewanka for photographs, to Mt. Norquay (photos down of Banff area), & to Upper Sulphur Hot Springs & Sulphur Mtn Gondola Lift (which I ~~rode~~ <sup>rode</sup> up). The top (7400 ft.) is in timber but with an excellent view down of Banff & of surrounding mtns. I walked north to the top of the next small summit (north end of ridge) to the Univ. of Calgary Connie Ray station & also hiked a couple miles south to the summit of Sulphur Mtn (8040 ft.). The highest peaks on the ridge ~~are~~ <sup>are</sup> nearly alpine but hold no snow & surely have no rosy finches. There are probably birds at & below this elevation to the west on the mtns along the snowy continental divide. I took closeup photos of Bighorn Sheep, Clark Nutcrackers & Golden Mantle Ground Squirrels. Chipmunks & Columbian Ground Squirrels were also common. Returned down the lift to the car & drove by the Banff Springs Hotel & Bow Falls & around the golf course road & then to Sundance Canyon where I ran the trail (nearly dark). Then back to town to buy a few odds & ends & back to camp for dinner.

Aug 3.

### Misty Range, Alberta, Canada

Drove east from Banff back to the Kananaskas Lake Road &





# Journal

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1969

Aug. 3

## Misty Range, Alberta, Canada

then south past Kananaskis lakes turnoff to the top of the pass (between 7000 + 7500 ft. elevation) west of the Misty Range & separating the Kananaskis River Drainage from the Highwood River. I parked the car & hiked, <sup>starting at 10:50 AM.</sup> via ~~the~~ an unmarked trail up into the cirque between Mt. Rae (10,580 ft, highest in the range) & the next pk south. The trail is steep at first as it climbs up thru alpine fir, Engelman spruce, & occasional ~~larch~~ larch to the meadows above. Then the trail levels out & disappears on the meadows. The flowers change constantly as you progress upward. Valerian, <sup>& an aster</sup> was common on the upper margins of the forest but it quickly drops out. Above this the meadow on the high benches is apparently well drained & has a dry character - white Dryas & White Leather (Phyllocladus). Later the meadow is lush, wet, & green and contains dwarf willows, cream colored paint brush, & elephant heads. Other species seen on the meadows: the small blue alpine Forgetmenot (Myosotis alpestris) & a ~~another~~ plant with similar flowers, but cream colored & with small hairy basal leaves (no stem leaves), carpet pink, aster (several sp.), paint brush (lavender, red), legumes (cream colored, lavender), west wind flower (Anemone), speedwell, & many others. At the head end of the meadow is a small waterfall coming from under a large rock moraine which chokes the canyon. I collected a ♀ Rosy Finch Feeding



R.E. Johnson  
1969

Journal

Aug. 3

Misty Range, Alberta, Canada

in the water at the top of the Falls at 11:20 AM. Nearby I saw Conies, Columbian Ground Squirrels & Water Pipits. Then I noticed some fossils which I noted over & over again all day long. [I ended up

carrying some rocks containing them from the very top of Mt. Rae]. I've seen these pictured before but have forgotten what they are. They look like coelenterates.

They form long tubes, often bunches of them in parallel & extending 6 or 7 inches at least (rocks broken so that full length is unknown) & in these cases  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch in diameter.

Others were found up to  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches in diameter. At one end they taper rapidly to a blunt point which usually curves a bit to the side. It is finely striated

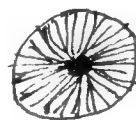
lengthwise & also has annular rings



what may be running around

it at  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch  $\pm$  intervals. Cross sections usually

show radial lines running to the center but the center area is often less clearly recorded



& may be a central tube. Some cross sections show chambering



forming rows of small "cells".

~~Two~~ Two rocks were found with other types of fossils.

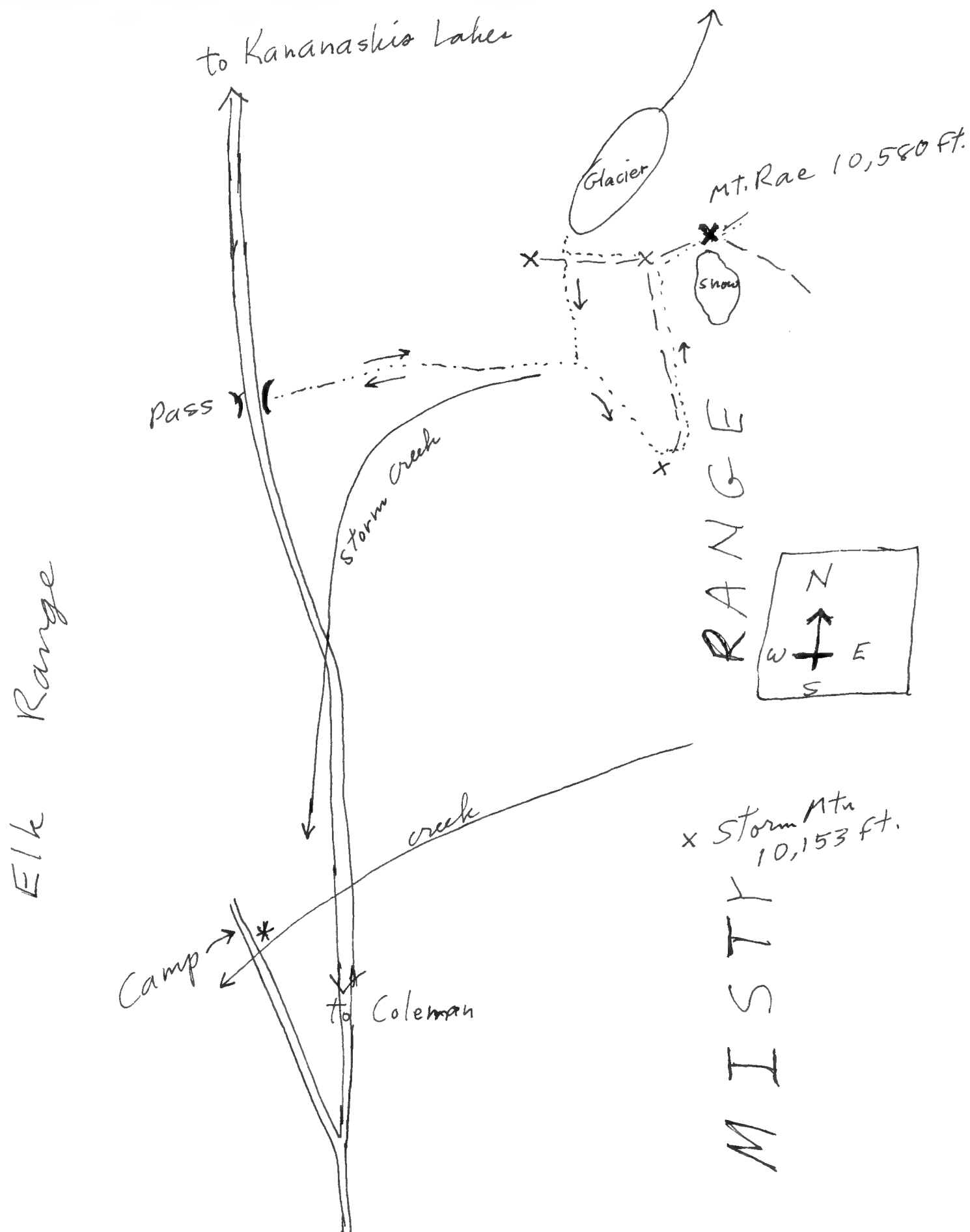
One contained a spiral  like a snail imprint.

Another contained small (1.5 mm in diameter) tubes like those made by tube worms in the intertidal zone mud flats.

The tubes were spaced closely (1.5 mm apart) & some appear connected by small cross connections.



Aug 3. Misty Range, Alberta, Canada




### Legend

- x m. tn. top  
 --- ridges  
 ..... my route  
 \_\_\_\_\_ creek  
 == road



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969Aug 3 Misty Range, Alberta, Canada

An animal trail ascends around the left end of the rock moraine to the rocky basin above. I decided to ascend the steep rock slide leading to ~~the~~ just left of the top of the much folded peak on right side of the cirque. This turned out to be nearly too steep for safety. Every step started a rock slide & often I would lose as much as I would gain. The top ended on steep slabs of folded rock & I walked (crawled) over a beautiful fold  to the ridge top just ne of the top of this peak. At 2:45 PM I collected a ♂ Rosy Finch (with buccal sacs very full) at this point and also saw a Water Pipit. I descended northward along the ridge toward the saddle <sup>on the ridge</sup> leading toward Mt. Rae. There is a large snow mass beneath the south face of Mt Rae & I heard a Rosy Finch below as I ascended the ridge toward the peak. I finally pried myself from more fantastic fossils & reached the summit of Mt. Rae (10,580 ft) at 5:30 PM. A rosy finch fed on a snow bank as I approached but flew before I got in range. Two Water Pits flew over. Probably the same Rosy Finch appeared twice more on the north slope but refused to get within range of even a full load of 9's. Finally I gave up & descended the ridge leading west above a large glacier on the north. Here I collected a ♂ & an Imma Rosy





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

Aug. 3

Misty Range, Alberta, Canada

Finch, both in molt. I also saw a Water Pipit. Glacial ice was exposed below with large crevasses partially filled with this seasons snow. Since no other birds appeared, I descended the south slope on talus down into ~~the~~ cirque from which I'd come. This slope is much easier to climb than the one I had gone up. Now I was carrying about 10 lbs of rock extra. I left the top of the glacier at 7:20 PM & reached the car while it was still light. The distance is short & I wandered easily through the meadows. I drove down the south side of the pass & up a side road to a stream crossing to camp. After dinner (now dark) a car came by & 2 girls waded out through the bushes with a lantern & came back with sleeping bags & cooking utensils! They had camped there last night & were now over due home (40 miles away). They were students (Pharmacy & Computer Programming) at U of Alberta. You never know what you'll find way out here!

Aug 4.

Misty Range, Alberta, Canada

Skinned the Rosy Finches & cleaned up the car a bit from the dust. Brought my notes up to date (now 5 days ~~of~~ out of date!). Improvised a radio antenna. Today clouds started building up before noon. Finally at 7 PM the first drops fell



## Journal

RE. Johnson  
1969

Aug 4

Misty Range, Alberta, Canada

and since then there have been a few other scattered moments of scant precipitation. I doubt if the total is measureable. I hoped it might rain a little <sup>more</sup> & bring down the fire danger (now extreme). Alberta is considering closing the backcountry to travel because of fire danger & that could really mess me up.

Map of Misty Range: Kananaskis Lakes 1:250,000 topo

Heavy rain about 10 PM after finishing above notes.

Aug 5

Banff, Alberta, Canada

Skies clear & clouding up again through early morning. Good rain by noon. Considerable snow falling at higher altitudes. Traffic discouraged over the highway from Banff to Jasper.

Drove from Misty Range north toward Canmore & Banff. Stopped several times in route. Drove a dirt road around the north end of the Misty Range & it appears the Mt. Rae Glacier, etc can be easily reached from there. Drove down <sup>another</sup> ~~the~~ side road to Kananaskis Lakes & saw nothing of interest. There are many <sup>nice</sup> private cabins in one area & a primitive campground in another. Roads do not approach the alpine or give it good access. Further north another road leads to a ski resort at an unknown but high altitude. Some fairly high cirques appear in <sup>easy</sup> reach from here. Due to the muddy road I couldn't drive to the top of the lifts.



Journal

R.E. Johnson

Aug 5. Banff, Alberta, Canada

Drove on to Canmore for gas & mail & then to Banff to clean up & visit park headquarters for a collecting permit. Turns out I cannot obtain a collecting permit locally but must write to Ottawa instead! Since its too late for that to be a useful approach, I'll have to do without or, rather, not-do without. This messes up my plans considerably since I'd hoped to collect in Banff, Jasper, Revelstoke, ~~the~~ ~~the~~ Yoho & Glacier.

The Chief Naturalist suggest I look at Rosy Finches at Sunrise, Larch Valley & Bow Summit. He thinks he has seen both Littoralis & Tephrocotis races here! However later I was told by a biologist that he (Chief Nat.) is new here & may not know that much yet.

Good rain (or snow) fell through afternoon & evening.

Aug. 6 Banff, Alberta Canada

Signs of clearing in the morning. I answered mail, etc until 2 pm & then took off to see Lake Louise & Lake Moraine & to drive to Bow Summit. Walked to Bow Lookout (saw a Hoary Marmot there) & walked the nature trail.

Returned to Two Jack Campground for the night

Aug. 7 Sunshine, Banff National Park, Alberta Canada

Drove up the Sunshine Road as far as the locked gate at the upper edge of a large parking area. In winter buses take skiers from here & transport them 3 miles up canyon



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969Aug. 7 Sunshine, Banff Nat'l Park, Canada

to the base of the lifts at Sunshine Camp. During the summer the area is little used except by the occasional hiker. This summer the park service is improving the upper road & I obtained a ride up to the lifts in a dump truck at 8 AM. From there I hiked approx. south & to the left (east) of the main lift. This brings you to tundra on the boundary of the park (on the Alberta-BC line). The tundra is very extensive (5-10 square miles). The following plants were noted: Fragaria, Dryas, Purple Saw-wort, Red & Yellow Paintbrush, Westwind Flower, Bush Cinquefoil, White Heather (Phyllocladus & Cassiope), Red Heather, Speedwell, Goldenrod, Forgetmemot (Myosotis alpestris), Western Lousewort, Carpet Pink, Spotted Saxifrage, Golden Fleabane, Showy Fleabane, Valerian, Smooth Cinquefoil, Mtn. Sorrel, Yellow Stonecrop, Four-parted Gentian, Antennaria, Fringed Parnassia, a white flowered Vetch, Horsetail, Engelman Spruce & Larix.

I hiked back & forth all over the area south of the park boundary, west of the summit of Lookout Mtn (which I ascended at 5 PM), & east of the 7500 ft. contour on the west side of Two Cairns Pk (a local name, see sketch map). The general route was west to the top of the ski lift <sup>(7400 ft.)</sup>, west further to the summit of Two Cairns Pk (8300 ft.), west down the slopes of Two Cairns to 7500 ft., south out the south ridge of Two Cairns, ~~contours~~ north & east to Rock Isle Lake, east to summit of





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

Aug 7.

Sunshine, Banff Nat'l Park, Alberta, Canada

Lookout Mtn., south along edge of cirque to tundra, west & north to ski lift again, down to Sunshine.

In this time I saw few birds or mammals considering the time<sup>spent</sup> & area seen. Mammals included Chipmunks, Columbian Ground Squirrels, Golden-mantled Ground Squirrels, & Conies. The Columbian GS was by far the most common & was quite dense along the north side of Rock Isle Lake.

Birds included: Townsend Solitaire (1), Horned Lark (1 juv.), Robin (1), 2 flocks of 8-10 Pine Siskins, a flock of 6-8 Water Pipits, a pair of Golden Eagles, 4 juv. Rosy Finches, ~~two~~ Mtn. Bluebird (~~hand only~~), White-tailed Ptarmigan (see below), a Rough-legged Hawk, & a mixed flock of Audubons Warblers, White-crowned Sparrows, & Oregon Juncos (which also included one of the Rosy Finches & one of the Mtn Bluebirds). I collected the Rosy Finch from the flock which was located in larch trees & open meadowy slopes at 7500 ft on the ridge south of Two Cairns pk & west of Grizzly Lake. In all I saw Ptarmigan on 6 occasions. There were two pairs without young (both on the ridge south of two cairns pk) and 4 ♀'s with young (2 yng, 3 yng, 4 yng, & 5 yng each). Three of these later were on the lower<sup>east</sup> slopes of the peak containing the top of the ski lift. Here also is where the Water Pipit Flock & the 3 Rosy Finches were found.



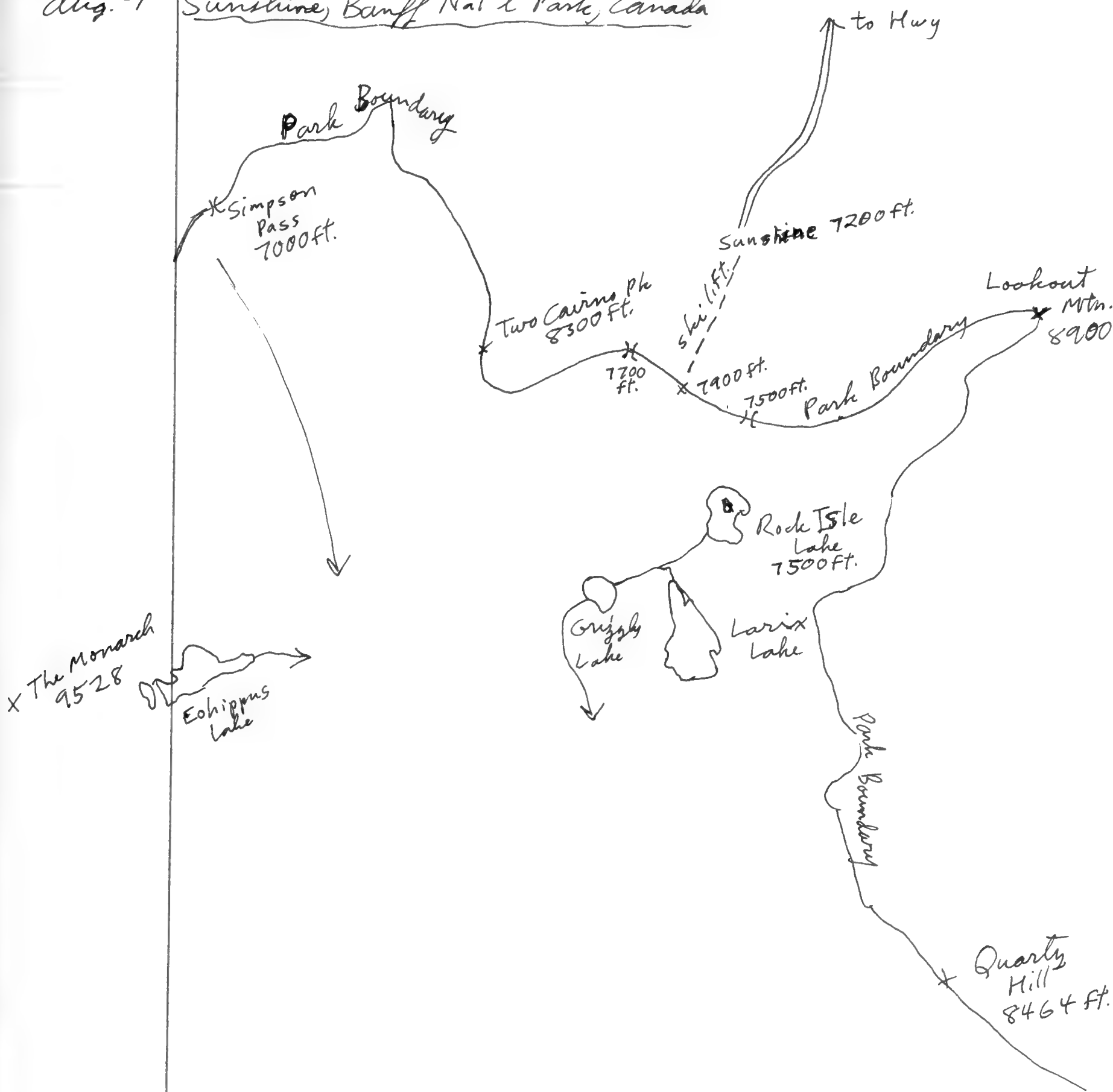
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Aug. 7

Sunshine, Banff Nat'l Park, Canada





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Aug 7

Sunshine, Banff Nat'l Park, Canada

On my way back I stopped at Sunshine to talk to Dr. George Scotter of the Canadian Wildlife Service, Edmonton, Alberta. He is studying the alpine plant communities in the area. Fred W. Anderka<sup>working out of Ottawa, Ontario</sup> is setting up remote monitoring devices for various environmental factors on the tundra. These will (are now) being followed throughout the year.

Scotter suggested I contact Peter Kookar (spelling uncertain), a grad student in the dept. of Botany at Univ. of Alberta under Dr. George Le Roi. He is working near a fire tower in the Bald Hills near Maligne Lake in Jasper Nat'l Park & he keeps records of the birds present.

I returned again to Two Jack Campground.

Aug. 8 C-Level Cirque to Lake Moraine, Banff Nat'l Park, Alberta, Canada

Up at 5:30 AM for a change. Cleaned out car, skinned the Rosy Finch, ate two breakfasts (one out), drove the road east from town that passes the Hoodoo Nature trail. Had to leave the Hoodoos early to catch the Naturalist led hike to C-level Cirque (start at 9:30 AM from Banffhead). It was to feature alpine plants but I saw little that was different & the naturalist knew many fewer plants than I did & none that I didn't already know. The people on the trip were interesting, however, and salvaged a wasted day. In the cirque ~~are~~ some small pieces of light green translucent rock called serpentine but not resembling at all the



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Aug. 8 C-Level Cirque to Lake Moraine, Banff Nat'l Park, Alberta, Canada  
 kind I was already familiar with. The rock is harder  
 & can be polished.

Returned to the Hoodoo trail & recorded the plants  
 labeled there:

Mtn. Goldenrod Solidago decumbens

Wild Onion Allium cernuum

Shrubby Cinquefoil Potentilla fruticosa

Small-Flowered Pussy's Toes Antennaria parviflora

Harebell Campanula rotundifolia

Creeping Juniper J. horizontalis

Ground Juniper J. communis

Western White Spruce Picea glauca albertiana

Hairy Wild Rye - Elymus innovatus

Northern Redstraw - Galium boreale

Yellow Hedysarum - H. sulphurescens

Woolly Yarrow Achillea lanulosa

Drove to Canmore to pick up mail for the  
 last time. Returned to Banff to do laundry while  
 answering mail. Drove to Lake Moraine for  
 the night. Camped beside the roaring outlet  
 stream.

Aug. 9 Lake Moraine to Columbian Ice Fields, Banff Nat'l Park, Canada

Took some pictures at Lakes Moraine & Louise & then  
 drove to Bow Pass again & walked the nature trail, this  
 time recording the plants that were labeled there:

Woolly Yarrow - Achillea lanulosa





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Aug. 9 Lake Moraine to Columbian Ice Fields, Banff Nat'l Park, Canada

Rock Willow - Salix vestita

Low Alpine Willow - Salix nivalis

Barratt's Willow - S. barrattiana

Arctic Willow - S. arctica

Heart-leaved Arnica - A. cordifolia

Tall Brook Ragwort - Senecio triangularis

Golden Fleabane - Erigeron aureus

Showy Fleabane - E. peregrinus

Alpine Goldenrod - Solidago multiradiata

Purple Saw-wort - Saussurea densa

Alpine Bearberry - Arctostaphylos rubra

One-flowered Wintergreen - Moneses uniflora

Red Mtn. Heather - Phyllodoce empetrifolia

Wild Strawberry - Fragaria sp.

Smooth-leaved Cinquefoil - Potentilla diversifolia

Bronze Bells - Stenanthium occidentale

Green Lily or White Camas - Zygadenus elegans

Yellow Alpine Paintbrush - Castilleja occidentalis

Indian Paintbrush - C. miniata

Western Cousewort - Pedicularis bracteosa

Buffalo Berry - Shepherdia canadensis

Yellow Columbine - Aquilegia flavescens

Four-parted Gentian - Gentianella propinqua

Mtn. Sorrel - Oxyria digyna

Fringed Grass of Parnassus - Parnassia fimbriata

Alpine Milk Vetch - Astragalus alpinus

Narrow-petalled Yellow Stonecrop - Sedum stenopetalum



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Aug 9. Lake Moraine to Columbian Ice Fields, Banff N.P., Canada

Alpine Speedwell - Veronica alpina

Alpine Pussytoes - Antennaria alpina

Wild Valerian - Valeriana sitchensis

Creeping Sibbaldia - Sibbaldia procumbens

White-barked Pine - Pinus albicaulis

Lodgepole Pine - Pinus contorta

Engelman Spruce - Picea engelmannii

Ground Juniper - Juniperus communis

According to the nature trail leaflet (titled "The Timberline at Peyto Lake Viewpoint") Spring Beauties & Globe Flowers occur earlier in the season. Subalpine Fir is also present.

The leaflet lists the following animals as present nearby: Canada Jay, Clark's Nutcracker, White-tailed Ptarmigan, Golden Eagle, Hoary Marmot, Golden-mantled Ground Squirrel & Pika.

I drove on to Athabaskan Glacier just north of the Banff - Jasper boundary & took pictures, then returned southward to Parker Ridge & hiked the 1 mile trail to the top of the ridge starting near 6 PM. The lower part of the ridge is subalpine with small trees & meadow. The upper slopes are more alpine & the top is rocky tundra. The rocks are filled with Fossils. Animals included: Pine Siskins, Clark's Nutcracker, White-tailed Ptarmigan (1 ♀ + 5 Juvs), Cony, Mtn. Goats &



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Aug. 9

Lake Moraine to Columbian Ice Fields, Banff Nat'l Park  
Golden-mantled Ground Squirrels. I saw no  
Rosy Finches or Water Pipits. The boats<sup>(14)</sup> were  
grazing in a cluster on the south slope of  
the ridge just above the highest scrubby trees.  
Among them were several playful kids who  
challenged the adults to butting duals only  
to dash off when things got serious. They also  
~~the~~ jumped down rock ledges with high arching  
jumps instead of making direct leaps like  
the adults did. They seemed to enjoy  
floating through the air & kicking up their heels.

I walked up the ridge (nw) till I  
reached the first snow covered pk & then  
turned back since it was getting late.

Camped at Icefields Campground.

Aug 10

Jasper to Glacier National Park, Canada

Returned to Athabasca Glacier for more  
photos & then drove south, back over Bow Pass  
to Trans-Canada 1 where I turned west through  
Field & on to Glacier National Park eventually.  
I picked up a ♀ bike rider who thumbbed a  
ride ~~for the~~ while riding and gave her  
a ride over Kicking Horse Pass & down to  
the Takakkaw Falls road up Yoho Valley in Yoho  
Nat'l Park. ~~She~~ She was part of a group of 14  
bike riders from NY traveling through the parks



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Aug. 10

Jasper to Glacier National Park, Canada  
~~Yellowstone~~

& staying at Youth Hostels at night. I drove to the Falls & also up the side road to the natural bridge & Emerald Lake.

Later I arrived at Rogers Pass in Glacier Nat'l Park & camped at Illecillewaet Campground. I noted the following trail mileages from trail signs for future reference:

Campground to :

Avalanche Crest	3.5 mi.
Mt. Sir Donald (base)	2
Perley Rock	4
Great Glacier (base)	3
Glacier Crest	3
Asulkan Valley	4
Marion Lake	2.5
Abbott Ridge	5

These values disagree rather widely with those in the 1969 Glacier Park Folder but they agree with the Glacier Nat. Park Trail Guide.

Northlander Motor Motel on Rogers Pass to:

Balu Pass	6 mi. according to sign
	3 1/2 mi. according to the trail guide.





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Aug. 11

Glacier to Revelstoke Nat'l Park, BC, Canada

Drove to Revelstoke & picked up mail. Then drove up to the top of Mt. Revelstoke (16 mi. of good wide gravel road to 6375 ft elevation). The top is subalpine but higher areas may be reached by trails heading eastward to lakes within more barren & rocky peaks some of which hold permanent snow or glaciers. The top of Mt. Revelstoke is park like: clumps of trees & meadows containing Red Mtn. Heather, White Mtn. Heather (Cassiope mertensiana), White Mtn. Rhododendron (R. albi-florum), Fleabane, Arnica, Antennaria, Valerian, Indian Paint Brush, Alpine Fir, Huckleberry, & Lutkii (?)

Mileages to the east from trail signs were:

Miller Lake  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mi.

Eva Lake  $4\frac{1}{2}$

Lake of Jade  $5\frac{1}{2}$

Birds seen were few. Canada Jays were begging from the tourists everywhere. The only other species seen was the Raven. Columbian Ground Squirrels were fairly common. The park folder lists Golden Eagles, Stellar's Jays, Clark's Nutcrackers, Robins, Hermit Thrush, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Red Crossbill, Ruffed, Franklin's & Blue Grouse, Ptarmigan, Water Pipits, Junco, Rosy Finches, Pine Grosbeaks & Townsend Solitaires as present. I saw none of these.

The highest peaks right around the lakes reached by trail are 7700-8000 ft in height but



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Aug. 11

Glacier to Revelstoke Nat'l Park, BC, Canada

others up to 8600 ft are probably accessible via easy cross country travel.

I met a summer warden (Dave Meehan) & he supplied the name of the most common flowering plant at this season: Luth[?]a, which he picked up from a visiting botanist. He suggested I check with the BC Forest Service office & the Celgar (lumbering firm) office in Revelstoke regarding roads high into the Monashee Mtns.

I returned to Revelstoke & obtained a motel & took my first bath in 3 wks or so.

Clear & warm weather all day but clouds moving in at 11 PM.

Aug 12. Revelstoke & vicinity, BC, Canada

Awoke to rain in the morning & it continued all day. Spoke to the BC Forest Service (office in Court House) & they suggested I try the road up Jordan River, nw of town, which leads to a new mine high on a ridge (Mt. Copeland). They also suggested I talked to Celgar. Visited the Celgar office & they suggested I follow their crew bus at 6 AM as it leaves for logging south of town under the slopes of Mt. Thor (9000 ft.). They said the road net is so complex (& unmarked) that I could never be directed there & should instead follow the bus instead. Several spots on the road are close to alpine (1 hr hiking away from it) & alpine can be seen &



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Aug. 12 Revelstoke & vicinity, B.C., Canada

examined from the road to select the most desirable locations.

In the afternoon I drove up the Jordan ~~River~~ River road located a short ways west of town on Trans Canada 1 (turn off is 1st rd east of Okanagan Helicopters Ltd.) & followed the road all the way to the mine which is at the head of Healey Creek at an elevation of 6150 ft. The clouds lay on the ground at that elevation and I couldn't see upward to size up the habitat. Mt. Copland (8472 ft) should lie nearby by. Snow lay fairly deep in north facing gullies down to approx. 4500 ft. Near the mine are several small lakelets with meadows adjoining & above these were sizeable snow patches. The general character of the area is subalpine & much like the top of Mt. Revelstoke. If anything this location is slightly more alpine. Plant species on the meadow & creek drainage were: White Mtn Heather, Red Heather, Senecio, Westwind Flower, Valerian, Parnassia, Indian Paint Brush, Lewis Monkey Flower, Speedwell & Luthia. <sup>← Meadow Spirea - Spirea pectinata</sup> In the lake at rds end were 2 Dippers & on the adjacent meadow a Water Pipit. Up canyon I saw a Stellar Jay. Down canyon where debris is dumped over the roadside (above the mine mill site) were approx. 20 Ravens. Mammals included: Cony, Hoary Marmot, & Columbian Ground Squirrel.

I hiked up into the clouds to the ridge top located



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Aug. 12 Revelstoke + vicinity, B.C., Canada

up creek but couldn't see a thing. Trees do occur in patches at this altitude but no merchantable timber. The ground is rocky with numerous rounded (glaciated?) outcrops & patchy meadows. This appears to be a good route of access. The mine superintendent or manager (anyway boss - Mr. Collins) OK'd my parking & hiking from there (the road isn't open to the public). The mine is 18 miles from the paved highway. It is being developed by Versatile Mining Services (Kamloops, B.C.) for King Resources. Molybdenumite.

I returned to Revelstoke (still raining) & explored other roads. I drove south from town on the old highway (now leads under water of Arrow Lake) past the airport (rd along east side of lake) & then took Akolkolex River Forest Development Rd up to the left. This eventually led up the river & across it & ~~thence~~ up a side creek toward Comaplix Mtn (8761 ft.) which has a large glacier on its north side. However the rd ends at the top of a logging area which is well below tree line & far short of that mtn. Other alpine ridges & peaks surround the area but are not accessible from this location. I returned down & noticed a tent camp in the trees & there I met some exploratory geologists doing boring work nearby. Grant Mitchell suggested I try





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Aug. 12

Revelstoke & vicinity, B.C., Canada

MT. Copeland near the mine I'd been to earlier. He helped lay out that road (a year ago). Also he suggested I talk to Jack Bailey, a long time logger in the area who gets around the mtns a lot. Grant felt Bailey had been in the alpine via jeep near Comaplix Mtn for example. Bailey lives just north of the airport on the road I had just followed. He also suggested I speak to the people at Okanagan Helicopter, Ltd about a free ride to some peak top when they were already flying that way. Apparently that is done for "friends" occasionally! I returned to Revelstoke for dinner & camped ~~at~~ low along the Jordan River Rd. The sky was clear at 11pm!

Aug 13

Revelstoke & vicinity, BC, Canada

A woke to steady rain. During the day the rain gradually reduced to zero by noon, high clouds by 6pm & clear by midnight, much like yesterday.

I spent most of the day at Okanagan Helicopters waiting to see if I could catch a ride anywhere for free. Surprisingly they were sympathetic but as it turns out their schedule for the next couple days is in low country or at a fire south of here, etc so they probably can't help me at this time. While I was waiting around I met a number of geologists who are prospecting for large mining companies &



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1969Aug 13 Revelstoke & vicinity, B.C., Canada

use the helicopter service to get around. One of them, a former U of Oklahoma prof, told me the fossils I found ~~near Carboniferous~~ in the Misty Range (see Aug 3) are solitary Devonian corals. He was interested in visiting the location.

In the afternoon I visited the Park Service Headquarters, Miss Eva Burn (a local biology teacher) & Jack Bailey. She also sees Rosy Finches each year in Revelstoke in March. I found the identity to the plant I had called "Lutkia" (see Aug. 11 & 12) in one of her plant books. It is correctly called: Meadow Spirea - Spirea pectinata. (see Aug 12)

Jack Bailey, turned out to be a great person who scores among the nicest people I have ever met. Both in IQ & personality he ranks superior. He suggested a number of places where I could drive close to the alpine zone & then walk in without having to battle brush:

- ① the mine road up ~~S~~ Jordan River (see Aug. 12)
- ② The road up McCulloch Creek (north of Revelstoke about 50 miles on the Big Arm Rd.). The Seymour Arm top shows it stopping at over 6000 ft. The peak above is 8027 ft.
- ③ the Silvercup Ridge area (sw of <sup>ev</sup> Revelstoke). He says there are many mining roads there. Plus are over 9000 ft. He suggested I talked to Seldon Daney who lives in Ferguson about Rosy Finches, Rds, etc..

He named a lot of other possible roads to try



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Aug. 13 Revelstoke & vicinity, B.C., Canada

that he was less sure of. For example a road goes up Woolsey Creek & another up Tangier Creek. Both are between Revelstoke Nat. Park & Glacier Nat. Park.

Camped on Jordan River Rd.

Aug 14. MT. Copeland & vicinity, Monashee Mtns, B.C., Canada.

Weather much like yesterday except clouds generally a little higher & less dominating throughout day.

Hiked from the mine at 9 AM. Walked up creek to the ridge & then turned right up that ridge to the 1st peak top. The opposite (north side) of this peak was very snowy. My map (Seymour Arm, BC - Sheet 82M, 1:250,000) shows many lakes in the general area, ~~the~~ which is correct but it doesn't begin to suggest the beauty of the area. The lakes are deep & blue and surrounded by snowy peaks & lush meadows. To the south I can see a lookout on Eagle Pass Mtn (7713 Ft.) which the map indicates has a trail to the top. I hiked east along the ridge (up & down over peaks & glaciers) & then down the north glacier to where 3 geologists were working. They were doing assay work for the mine on Healy Creek <sup>where I left my car.</sup> It turns out the mine shaft goes completely under the mtn I'm standing on & comes out below me & the base of the glaciers!



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Aug 14

Mt. Copeland, & vicinity, B.C., Canada

These geologists have seen a flock<sup>(up to 100)</sup> of rosy finches on the glacier for several days in a row feeding on flying ants & etc. They said the flocks are impossible to approach to within shot gun range. The birds usually seem to fly in from the north ~~but~~ & from below (lower altitude). They usually feed moving upslope on the glacier & then within  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour fly off to the west.

They also noted that Ravens occur regularly feeding on the snow in good numbers & that they appear to be paired & courting, etc.

Shortly two Pine Siskins flew over, then a flock of 50 rosy finches & also some Ravens. I put on my crampons & prepared to collect rosy finches. Meanwhile they flew off to the east unlike the usual pattern. However, they had come from the north & perhaps lower elevations. I chased them the remainder of the day & eventually totaled 6 specimens, 5 being juveniles & one an adult or tephrocotis. The juvs are in molt & will be useful for molt studies. The birds were not all collected in the same place. Some were from just east of Mt. Copeland, others from west of it. The birds were not kept separate & the location on the labels ~~is~~ & catalog is Mt. Copeland. All are from the same flock as it moved along.

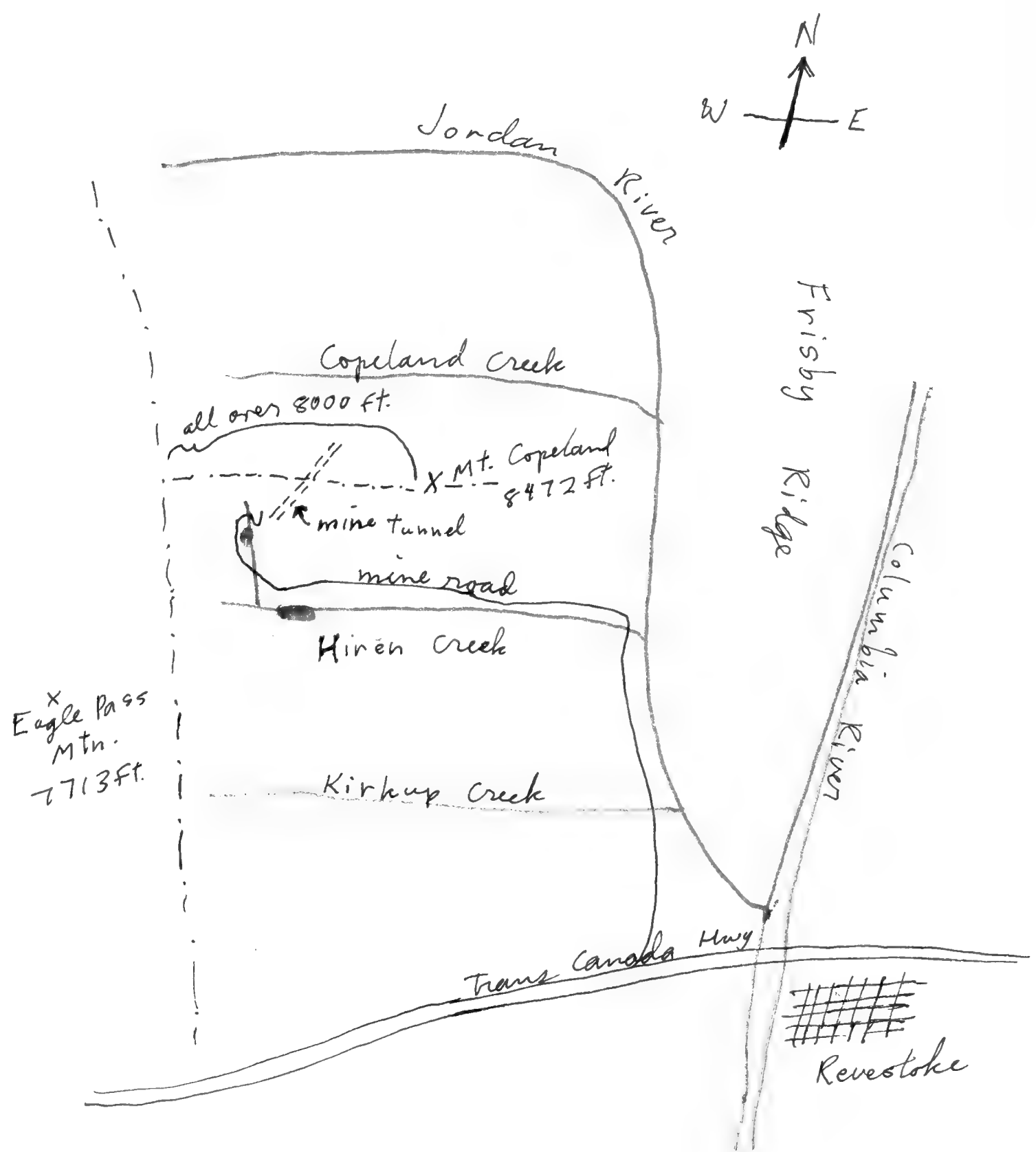




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Aug. 14 Mt. Copeland, Monashee Mtns, B.C., Canada



Legend	
==	highway
—	dirt road
- - - -	ridge top
- - - - -	} mine shaft
- - - - -	
—	river or creek

Aug. 14 The geologists also noted that Rosy Finches are common on the salted streets of Revelstoke in winter → & they refuse to fly & are run over in large numbers.

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Aug. 14

Mt. Copeland + vicinity, B.C., Canada

I collected ~~two~~ one juv. when in flight high overhead! I killed one adult & one juv. that were not retrieved. The glaciers ate them (ie crevasses). Though I only ~~collected~~ <sup>collected</sup> one adult, I saw 3 others at very close (too close to shoot) range & all were of the race L. t. tephrocotis. No littoralis were seen. All birds occurred on the north slopes either on snow & glaciers (where insects were very numerous - approx 1 per 4 sq. inches) or on cliff faces covered with ledges containing herbs & an occasional scrubby tree. Rosy Finches were still seen feeding after the sun was gone from the slopes (at 8:30 PM). I dashed off & reached the car & mine at something after 9:30 PM.

Other critters seen: Hoary Marmot, Columbian Ground Squirrel, Golden-mantled Ground Squirrel, chipmunk, Coy, Mtn. Goat (wool, tracks in snow, bedding places but no live animals), Ravens (paired, chasing each other, feeding on snow surface), Oregon Juncos (adults & juvs), White-tailed Ptarmigan (feathers & scats - no birds), & a Imm. Golden Eagle (soaring over the peaks). I saw no Water Pipits or Ptarmigan even though the habitat looked ideal for them & ptarmigan sign indicated they were there somewhere. I'd seen Water Pipits on Aug. 12. See Aug. 12 For many of the plants



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Aug 14 Mt. Copeland & vicinity, Monashee Mtns, B.C., Canada  
of the area. On this trip a number of other plants were seen including spotted Saxifrage & Broad-leaved Fireweed (Epilobium latifolium).

Camped several miles down the road from the mine.

PS. Found a nestling dead on the glacier surface beneath some headwall cliffs on the 1st pk. west of Mt. Copeland. This indicates clearly that the RF's nest near the tops of these big peaks.

Aug 15 Revelstoke & vicinity, B.C., Canada

Stuffed the six Rosy Finches. Picked up my last mail, washed me, my clothes, & car. Brought Journal up to date. Gave the car a lub & oil change. Took a cheap motel room for the night.

The weather was more threatening all day than it was yesterday but the 1st drops didn't fall until evening. Scattered showers through the night.

Aug. 16 Revelstoke to Duncan Dam, B.C., Canada

Raining off & on in the morning. Pouring over Mt. Begbie & Mt. Copeland. New snow on those peak tops that aren't completely hidden by ~~the~~ clouds. No chance to return to Mt. Copeland today. I'm due further south anyway. Picked up another letter (late) and drove south on the new road following the west side of the Columbia River to a Ferry, then across to Galena Bay on the ferry. Drove to Beaton (nearly a ghost town) & talked to Ina & Fred Lade for awhile. He has been in Beaton



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Aug 16 Revelstoke to Duncan Dam, BC, Canada  
off & on since 1901! Continued south to  
Ferguson to talk to Seldon Davey (see Aug. 13)  
but he wasn't home. Explored a mining road  
that climbs steeply north from Ferguson & ran into  
blasting. The road was often nearly impassable to  
there & beyond the blasting & was told it was  
much worse. Anyway I couldn't go on so returned  
to the main road & headed south Along Trout  
Lake & on to Duncan Dam area where I camped.

Aug 17 Duncan Dam to Nelson, B.C., Canada [Meadow Mtn.]  
From the dam I could see logging high on  
the east slope of Meadow Mtn. This wasn't the highest  
& snowiest peak in sight but it did look alpine  
with open meadow slopes & steep faces, & it was  
the only one with a road approaching it. I was  
fortunate to find the correct road rather quickly.  
The road to the mtn turns off the main road  
just opposite the road to the dam viewpoints.  
This road leads to Meadow Creek & the spawning  
channel & also up to the logged area above.  
About 8 miles up the road & within the logged  
area, the road branches. The left one  
is called Cooper Creek Rd & it continues southward  
& level. The right fork, <sup>John Creek Rd</sup>, climbs rapidly uphill  
to the top of the logged area I'd observed from  
below. I explored the right fork first & then tried





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Aug. 17

Duncan Dam to Nelson, B.C., Canada, [Meadow Mtn.]  
The level left fork on a hunch that it must eventually go higher up Cooper Creek on the south side of Meadow Mtn. Initially the road was quite level & in uncut forest, then it swung right & up into heavily logged slopes & through active logging. But choosing ~~big~~ roads carefully (usually right branches) I was able to climb high & finally got on a mining road leading around the south side of Meadow Mtn & up onto subalpine meadows. At 19.7 miles <sup>(10 AM)</sup> from the main road I stopped on an N-S ridge & hiked back along a ridge leading first south then east & up. This peak was over 8000 ft & had snow along the rim of two shallow north or ne facing cirques. I walked the ridge above both & then returned down through them. Plants included: Lyall Penstemon, Heather (Phyllodoce & Cassiope), Westwind Flower, Showy Fleabane, Antennaria, Mt. Sorrell, Oryza, Junca, Golden Fleabane, Sibbaldia, Arnica, Stonecrop, Fragaria, Spotted Saxifrage, Creeping Juniper & clumps of small trees (W.B. Pine, Englemann Spruce, & Subalpine Fir). Mammals: Mule Deer (3 forked buck), Columbian Ground Squirrel, Coon & sign of Mtn Goat (hair, tracks, bedding place). Birds: Clark's Nutcracker, Sparrow Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Golden Eagle, Ravens (flock of 10), & a small brown



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Aug. 17 Duncan Dam to Nelson, B.C., Canada [Meadow Mtns]  
sparrow that escaped by clear view.

The road continues a short ways further & would provide access for a profitable several mile hike to higher country to the NW where there are glaciers. However I wanted to go up Meadow Mtn (now east of me), so I drove back <sup>2 miles</sup> to a saddle between the lower peak I just hiked & Meadow Mountain (8335 ft.). The hike from here is steep at first through scrubby timber patches & open meadow & later levels out more on rocky meadow. Vegetation is similar to that already seen but is a bit drier & *Dryas* dominates over much of it. Large snow patches occur along the top of the main ~~N~~-S ridge. One Rosy Finch (*Tephrocotis*) was seen & collected near the summit. A flock of Horned Larks were <sup>& one collected</sup> seen a bit further south on the ridge in *Dryas*. Four White-tailed Ptarmigan were seen on the east slope below the summit. Two were collected. A Red-tailed Hawk flew over. No Water Pits were observed.

I returned down to the main road & drove south to Kaslo for gas & then up the side road (west) toward New Denver & Kootenai Glacier Prov. Park. The road to the glaciers should branch left from this road but I missed it & kept driving. Since it



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Aug. 17 Duncan Dam to Nelson, B.C., Canada [Meadow Mtn]  
was now dusk I returned again to Kaslo, ~~to~~ without further search for the road to the glacier, and drove south to Nelson for the night.

Aug. 18 Nelson to Manning Prov. Park, B.C., Canada  
Drove south on BC Hwy # 6 to Salmon & continued south on BC Hwy 6 for about 3 miles & then turned off to the left on a dirt road past an active saw mill and up Sheep Creek. I had hoped to drive up to the top of Three Sisters Peaks (7834 ft.) to see if any alpine habitat occurred there. However after trying each branch of the road and finding each either blocked by considerable downed timber or closed by a locked gate, I gave up and returned to the highway. So far as I could tell from below, none of the peaks reached timberline, but I may not have seen the highest points. One small snow patch was seen on the north rim of one ridge. The forests seemed to be thinning somewhat toward the mtn tops but for edaphic not climatic reasons. A new paved highway <sup>(BC # 3 over Summit Lake Pass 5820 ft)</sup> leads close to another high peak (Ripple Mtn, 7850 ft.) located a few miles further south but I did not notice that this was so until after I'd left the area.

I drove west on BC Hwy # 3 to Trail & Rossland & then north on the new Hwy 3B which passes ~~the~~



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Aug. 18

Nelson to Manning Prov. Park, B.C., Canada.

east & then north of Old Glory Mtn. (7795 ft.). The north side is cliffs & has snow at their bases indicating a possible alpine habitat for rosy finches. This spot would be totally isolated for all other such habitat by ~~at least~~ forty miles (Three Sisters Pks) to the east & 25 miles to the north. There is a fire tower on the summit & a trail.

I drove on west on BC #3 to Osoyoos & inquired about the area to the west & just north of the U.S. border. I found out that part of the area is now a Provincial Park & thus closed to collecting (Cathedral Prov. Park). I drove on west into the Similkameen River Valley & talked to a rancher who had hiked all over the Snowy Mtn area just west of there (see Penticton 1:250,000 & Keremeos 1:50,000 topo maps). We looked at maps & he indicated where trails went (not on the maps) for 2 hours! He suggested I follow a logging road up to the end & then pack in. It's too beautiful to just dash in & out he said. The road is found by turning off <sup>(west)</sup> BC Hwy 3 a mile or so north of Utica Mines & following a dirt road across the river (bridge) & railroad & taking the road up the mtn on the other side (rds also go left & right - up & down the valley). He thinks he has seen a rosy finch up in the rocky country just above timberline. The Keremeos topo indicates considerable alpine area. Snowy Mtn is 8507 ft. There are a number





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969Aug. 18 Nelson to Manning Park, B.C., Canada

of lakes at or near timberline. This fellow was very interesting & loved the high country. He was quite soul lifting & I needed it after the beating I'd taken at the hands of the lady at the Travel Office at Osoyoos who considered me the lowest creature (next to snakes & spiders no doubt) on earth for shooting birds & believing in evolution. I guess I should never tell anyone what I'm really doing when they ask!

I drove on to Hampton Campground in Manning Prov. Park & spent the night.

Aug. 19 Hope area, B.C., Canada

Drove to Hope & picked up a large batch of mail, some waiting for almost 2 wks! Drove on south to Chilliwack & then in to Chilliwack lake. The entire day was rainy & the clouds were so low I could rarely see far up the mtns. Even so it was clear that there are many peaks all around the lake that have ample alpine zone for song finches. The main dirt road goes to the foot of the lake (shown on BC Hwy maps but not on my topos) & another dirt road continues around the north shore nearly to the upper end of the lake where it turns up a canyon. However it was blocked at that point & blasting was occurring above



Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

Aug. 20 Hope + vicinity, BC, Canada



TransCanada Hwy #1 & Mt. Cheam, 6913 ft.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

Aug 19

Hope & vicinity, B.C. Canada

this point. I talked to two Fisheries people stationed in a trailer near where this creek meets the lake. They knew nothing about where the road led above there. They were obtaining eggs from spawning salmon in the creek & transporting them to a hatchery. They showed me their equipment & procedures. I drove back out the road & over to Cultus Lake Campground for the night.

Also skinned the Rosy Finch, Horned Lark, & two Ptarmigan from Aug. 17.

Aug 20

Hope & vicinity, B.C., Canada

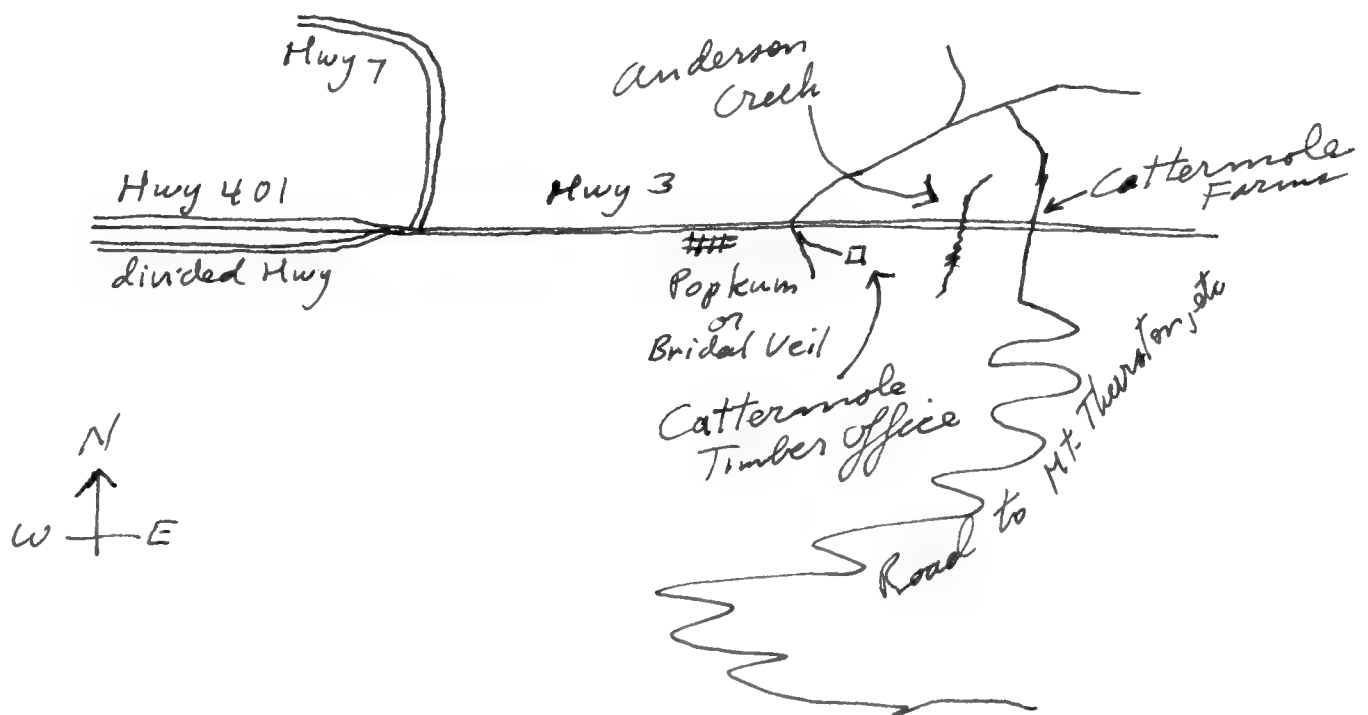
Rain & low clouds continue. Talked to BC Forest Service people at Cultus Lake & they suggested I try driving the Mt. Thurston Rd which runs from the Chilliwack River on the south over a ridge to the Fraser River valley near Bridal Veil on the north. However they said to approach from the north - the south is too steep (Jeep road). They said to drive until a water tower is reached & then turn left & drive until a slide blocks the road. Then hike to the end of the road & ascend the ridge above (close) & walk a <sup>ridge top</sup> trail from there to the top of Cheam Pk (6913 ft.). Brooks (1917) reported that rosy finches breed on this mountain. Cheam Pk is the first (westmost) of a string of alpine peaks, the highest reaching over 7700 ft. The Forest Service told me to contact the Cattermole



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969Aug. 20 Hope & vicinity, B.C., Canada

Timber Company first (phone 794-7181). They own the road. They said it was OK to drive up & suggested I follow a logging truck up (only 2 using the road) from the unloading area & that way I wouldn't meet one on the narrow road. The road is located 1.8 miles east of the east end of Hwy 401, just east of the Anderson ~~lake~~ creek crossing & across from the entrance to Cattermole Farms (see below)



The Timber Co. calls the road the Chipmunk Rd. I drove up & explored around in the rain & got thoroughly soaked. I worked on the road for over an hour so that I could drive further but finally decided the work would never end. There were too many washed out spots or slides spaced along it. In any event I did find the route I had been told about. However it would be pointless to hike to Cheam





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969Aug. 20 Hope & vicinity, B.C., Canada

Peak when you couldn't see a car length in any direction so I returned to the highway & drove back to Hope for more mail. Read Time Magazine & Sports Illustrated, labeled 3 boxes of slides & wrote a letter before camping at a campground a few miles ~~west~~ east of town on BC Hwy 3.

Aug. 21 Hope to Manning Park, B.C., Canada.

The rain & low clouds continue! Wrote 11 postcards, 5 letters, & also mailed 2 packages & then drove east to Manning Prov. Park where I walked the Rhododendron Trail, visited the Nature House, drove up to Blackwall Peak (6768 ft.) & hiked the Paintbrush Nature Trail, & attended the evening naturalist program on the alpine habitat.

The paintbrush trail had been spoken of as alpine but it really is subalpine. The meadows are good sized but there are stands of trees (mostly Abies & Picea, but also a few W.B Pine & Lodgepole Pine) also. It is really subalpine parkland. The meadow vegetation is much taller than usual alpine growth (1-2 ft. tall) & certainly isn't tundra. Species seen: Westwind flower, Arnica, lupine, Showy Fleabane, Yarrow, Paintbrush (both red & white species), Antennaria, Phyllodoce (Heather), Huckleberry (both dwarf & large leaved species), Chickweed, Meadow Spirea, Cinquefoil, Catchfly, St. Johns Wort, Sibbaldia,



## Journal

R. E. Johnson  
1969

Aug. 21

Hope to Manning Park, B.C., Canada

Eriogonum, Spotted Saxifrage, &amp; Valerian.

Fireweed (Epilobium angustifolium grew along the road margins). The meadow spirea occurred on steep me facing slopes. Canada Jays,Clark's Nutcrackers, Mtn Chickadees, OregonJuncos, Chipmunks & Conies were seen.I'm ~~not~~ confident no Ptarmigan or Water Pipits use the meadows near Blackwall Peak (6768 ft.)

A trail runs n w up &amp; down the various peaks of the ridge. Timber covers much of this route but about 7 miles out the meadows become more extensive &amp; higher peaks are found which are more alpine &amp; barren.

These were hard to see clearly in the haze however. No snow could be seen. The highest are the 3 Brothers (7453, 7382, &amp; 7367 ft.).

At the evening naturalist talk I saw a picture of the 1st Brother & it is definitely barren, rocky & more alpine but I can't say if it has cliffs, ~~the~~ much snow, cirques, etc & if it is likely to have rosy finches. It does appear it might have Ptarmigan & Pipits. The naturalist said Ptarmigan ~~the~~ have been seen there but not this year. Earlier a naturalist at the Nature House said Ptarmigan Pipits & Horned Larks occur there.

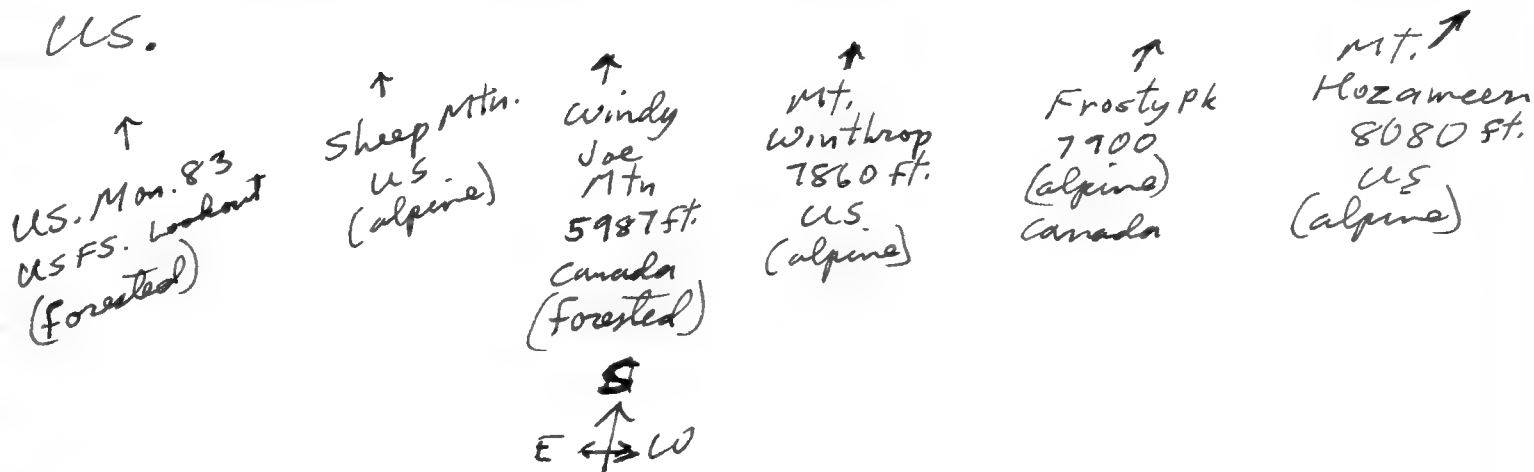


Journal

RE. Johnson  
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Aug. 21 Hope to Manning Park, B.C., Canada

The view to the south has many high snow, sharp, alpine peaks. Most are in the U.S.



The US alpine peaks all appear very close. Frosty Pk is even closer of course & can be reached by trail but is in the park. It definitely has habitat for rosy finches.

Mt. Winthrop & Hozomeen Mtn. appear on the Concrete 1:250,000 topo map. Mt. Winthrop, Mon. 83 & Lookout appear on the Pasayten Ranger District map of Okanogan Nat. Forest. This map also shows a Sheep Mtn but it is to the left, (east) of the US Lookout instead of to the right.

Aug. 22 Manning Park to Keremeas area, B.C., Canada

Drove east through Keremeas & up the logging road toward Snowy Mtn. (see Aug. 18).

Drove to the end of the road & explored most side roads. From the end I hiked uphill to the west & found a very poor trail leading upward & later a route marked by blaze marks on trees.

I hiked upward for  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour & occasionally I could see the alpine ridge, north of Snowy Mtn. This

called Ptarmigan Ridge locally



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
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Aug. 22

Manning Park to Keremeas area, B.C., Canada

route is hard to find, over & under ~~the~~ downed trees, & is slow. When returning down the road in the car I noted a good trail heading west at a point 0.4 miles down the road. Another 0.3 miles lower on the road is a road to the right leading to a manger, small creek (now nearly dry) & trails heading uphill.

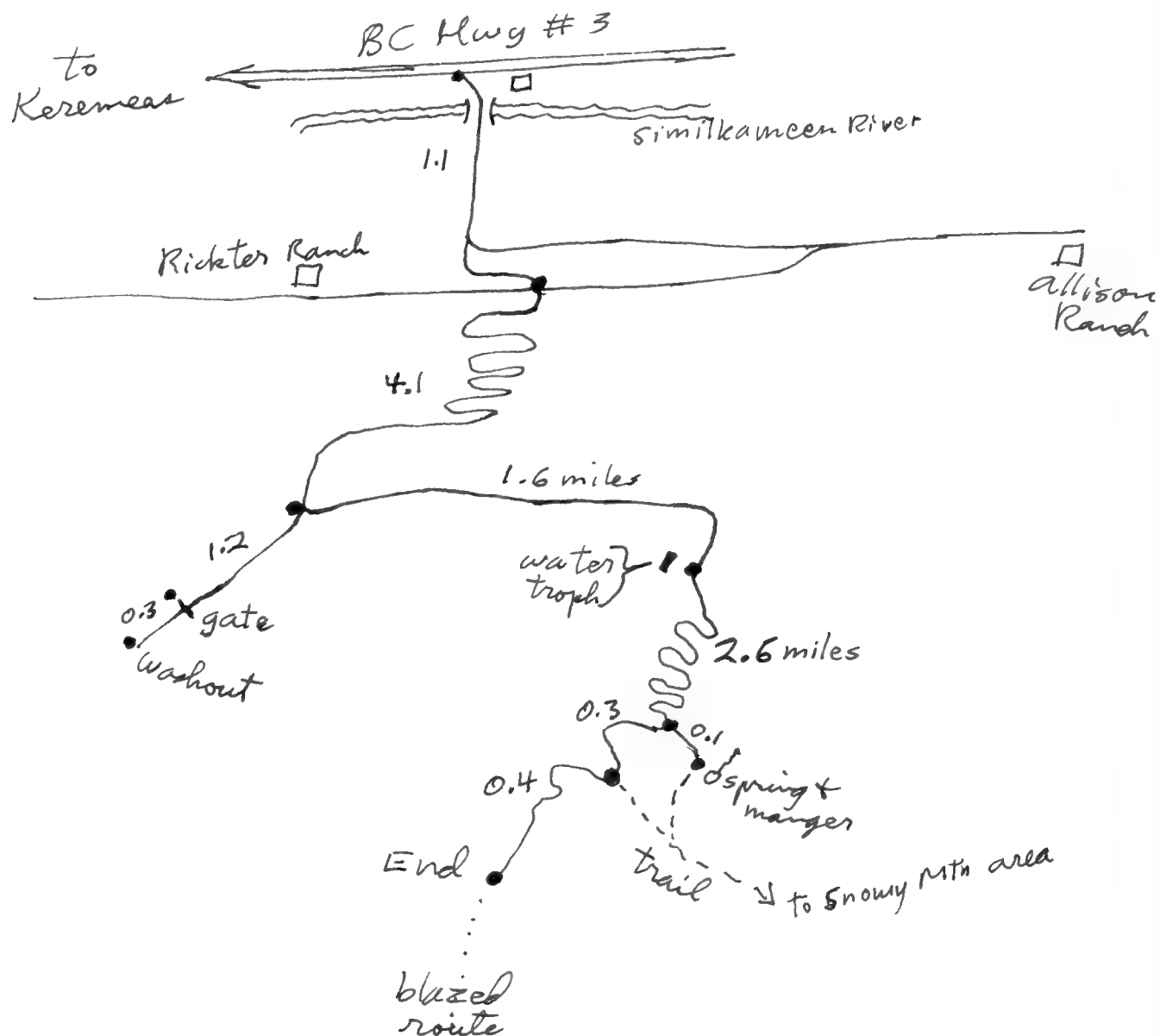
I drove back down to the Similkameen River Valley & talked to more ranchers to find out where the trails & blazed route lead. I found that two ranchers run cattle up there: Allison & Richters. I talked to Mr. Richter & he said the blazes are a miners work. The correct route is the highest trail I'd seen. [On horseback it takes him about 1 hr. to alpine habitat. The trail continues on south of Snowy Mtn & north of Worlds Ridge. There is a cabin below a small lake on the ridge top sw of Snowy <sup>Mtn.</sup> ~~Ridge~~.] The trails up from the manger connect with this trail. The major ridge ~~ne~~ of Snowy Mtn is called Ptarmigan Ridge & he says Ptarmigan are common on its upper north slopes just north of a large cairn on top. The topography but not the trails, is shown on the Keremeas 1:50,000 topo (82E/4W = code # of map).

I drove to Keremeas for gas & dinner, etc & then went back up the logging road to the end.





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969Aug. 22 Manning Park to Keremeas area, B.C., Canada

Distance from Hwy to trail = 9.3 miles.

Note: I have measured this distance 4 times to find it's a half mile shorter than above when measured in a downward direction!



R.E. Johnson  
1969

## Journal

Aug. 23 Snowy Mtn, Okanagan Range, B.C., Canada

Weather clear & hot (hotter than ~~previous~~ day which was also clear & hot). Started up the trail for Snowy Mtn at 7:40 AM. The trail climbs rapidly upward through spruce-fir-lodgepole pine forest to timberline just south east of Snowy Mtn (approx 2500 ft climb in 4 to 5 miles). A hundred yards from the car I saw 3 Pileated Woodpeckers on lower tree trunks beside the trail. They put up quite a squawk but only flew about 20 ft from the trail as I passed. A little later I tried a Pigmy Owl call & attracted a mixed group of Mtn Chickadees (15), Red-breasted Nuthatches (10), Ruby-crowned Kinglets (2), and one Pine Squirrel. A Townsend Warbler had sung nearby before I started & it did not come to the call. In the first 2 miles (car to 1st creek) I saw 5 Blue Grouse. From here to timberline I saw 6 more. About a mile above the creek I tried another <sup>pigmy</sup> owl call and attracted Mtn. Chickadees predominantly, but also a pair of <sup>Ruby-crowned</sup> Kinglets, a White-winged Crossbill, a Cassin Finch & an Audubon Warbler. Elsewhere along the way below timberline I saw a Raven & heard an Olive-sided Flycatcher & a Ruby-crowned Kinglet singing. At timberline I saw 3 Robins & a Sparrow Hawk.

Around the base of the alpine ridge that meets the trail at timberline are a number of cold springs giving rise to creeks. Many others have already gone dry. The alpine slopes above appear very very dry. Few flowers are to be found but any plant species can still be identified. Most prominent are Dryas &



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969Aug. 23 Snowy Mtn, Okanagan Range, B.C., Canada

and Phyllodoce (White Heather for sure & perhaps also Red). In many areas a dwarf willow (now with bright red or yellow leaves) is most common & forms uninterrupted carpets.

Other species noted: Carpet Pink, Stonecrop (some in flower), Bush Cinquefoil, Smooth-leaved Cinquefoil, Spotted Saxifrage, Creeping Juniper (Juniperus communis), & Sedge.

Grasshoppers were common. The first bird I noted on the lower slopes of this dry tundra was a Blorned Lark (Juv - tail short). Shortly I also saw several Water Pipits. Practically the entire alpine area of many square miles is of this dry tundra with protruding rocks of granite. This pattern is broken in a few places by steep cliffs of cirques such as the one just north of the summit of Snowy Mtn & a lesser one to the east of the peak. There are other cirques <sup>walls</sup> above Harry Lake (<sup>north</sup> west of Snowy Mtn) & on the north side of the summit of Ptarmigan Ridge. There are good sized snow patches along the rims & below the cliffs of each of these cirques. Shrub Plant, Mt. Sorrel, & Lyall Penstemon occur on the north faces slopes of these cirques. The only Cassiope that I noticed was along the top of Ptarmigan Ridge. There was also some polygon development there. On the ridge between Snowy Mtn & Ptarmigan Ridge was a Noranda claim stake. I wonder what minerals they have found here?

At the top of the cirque north of Snowy Mtn was a flock of 20+ Water Pipits & I collected 4 which Nico Verbeek can perhaps use for his molt studies. A flock of 5 Mtn Bluebirds flew up the north slope & continued south over the tundra. A group of 10 Pine Siskins.



R. E. Johnson  
1969

## Journal

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Aug. 23 Snowy Mtn, Okanagan Range, B.C. Canada

flew approx. the same route at another time. A Cooper Hawk circled over the lip of the cirque for several minutes. A Sparrow Hawk was seen throughout the day along this same lip. Occasionally it hovered over tundra facing the wind (south) for several minutes. White-tailed Ptarmigan occurred just inside the cirque (the upper 50 ft. of slope). 7 were seen in this cirque & 2 more at the top of the cirque north of Ptarmigan Ridge. Judging from feathers & droppings on the dry tundra, the ptarmigan also used it earlier but not at this time of year. This suggests that the ptarmigan are not selecting these north slopes for food species but for either cool temperatures, ~~a~~ moisture, or green plants (as opposed to dry ones).

Twice Ravens were heard down in the cirque north of Snowy Mtn. & similarly 3 times for Clark's Nutcracker. A Rufous Hummingbird flew <sup>east</sup> past the top in a hurry. A Swift (not White-throated) circled the <sup>rocky</sup> ridge north of the summit cairn once & disappeared. One Rosy Finch flew up & landed 100 ft. below the top of the cirque but shortly disappeared before I could get close enough to tell the race or to collect it. Much later a Flock of <sup>20</sup> Rosy Finches (young & adults) flew along the talus floor of the cirque feeding. The only bird I saw closely was a Juv. but ~~some~~ <sup>20</sup> fled others, suggesting the presence of adults. I couldn't get to these birds before they had departed to the east. One other group of perhaps 5 young & an adult were seen but also escaped me. These were all seen after 4:30 PM when there was little time





R. E. Johnson  
1969

# Journal

Aug. 23 Snowy Mtn., Okanagan Range, B.C., Canada

remaining for pursuit anyway since I was <sup>nearly</sup> 3 hours from the car.

On Ptarmigan Ridge I saw Water Pipits & collected one Horned Lark. The Ptarmigan seen were already mentioned. A Sparrow Hawk circled the head of the cirque above Harry Lake.

Mammals above timberline: Coon, Chipmunk, Mtn. Goat (not seen but wool & tracks found), Bighorn Sheep (said to be very common here, I didn't see any but I saw tracks), & Hoary Marmot (heard down inside the cirque north of Snowy Mtn.).

On the return trip I collected a Vesper Sparrow a short ways upslope from timberline.

Around timberline Red Indian Paint Brush, Showy Fleabane, Yarrow, Lupine, Lousewort, dwarf Huckleberry, & ~~some~~ Eriogonum are common & <sup>some of</sup> the 1st 4 are still in bloom (this is perhaps because of the moisture mentioned earlier).

On the return hike 8 Blue Grouse & 1 Spruce Grouse were seen before I reached the creek at halfway point. (Beyond this it was too dark to see birds). A Stellar Jay, 2 Canada Jays & a Clark's Nutcracker were seen along the margins of a subalpine park just below timberline.

Ps. Earlier a Hawk sp. was seen twice just east of the summit of Snowy Mtn. It may have been the Cooper Hawk.

Timberline is at 7300 ft. ±.

Reached the car at 8:40 PM - dark. A warm night.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969Aug. 24 Okanagan Range, B.C., Canada

A warm night & a hot sunny day (hotter still than the previous day). I stuffed my six birds & then drove down to the valley to get some water. Bought some fruit at a fruit stand. Washed up in the river. Returned to the end of the logging road & packed up to hike in for perhaps 2 nights in the Snowy Mtn area. Left for the trail at 6:30 PM & reached timberline & set up camp at about 8:00 PM. In route I saw more Blue Grouse (mostly in the last 2 miles) & Mtn. Chickadees, A Red-shafted Flicker, two Sparrow Hawks, one Robin & several Clark's Nutcrackers were seen in the subalpine park<sup>just</sup> before reaching timberline. Also saw an adult & juv. Porcupine in the park.

In late afternoon the wind began to pick up & clouds began to appear from the SW. By 5 PM clouds were black & continuous to the north & single dark clouds were pouring over Snowy Mtn. The wind was very strong raising dust in the valleys & on the dirt logging road. By 7 PM no clouds were visible in the immediate vicinity of Snowy Pk. The wind continued however & became cold so that the timberline area was much colder (probably 70°F last night at 45°F tonight) tonight at 8 PM.

A large fire has developed due to the wind on the east side of the mtns forming the east side of the Similkameen River valley. The sky was billowing with smoke at 5 PM. at 9:30 PM the sky was red above that area.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969Aug 25 Snowy Mtn., Okanagan Range, B.C., Canada

Sunrise was approx. 6 AM but it only appeared as a red circle through the heavy smoke that filled the valley & rose above the mtns to the east. The sun finally made it at 6:30 AM. Ice covered small ponds & there was frost on my sleeping bag & pack. Aside from the smoke to the east the sky was clear at 6 AM but by 8:30 dark clouds were approaching in a front from the sw. By 11 AM these had broken up & were passing over as single white clouds & the effect looked much less threatening. There was little wind throughout the morning & yet the weather was cold without it. The sun seemed warm when it shone however. By 11 AM smoke could be smelled at the head of the cirques facing east.

On the dry slopes above camp the only bird noted was the Horned Lark which was ~~very~~ reasonably common.

A few places on that slope are springs surrounded by green vegetation. When I descended this slope two days ago I noted fresh scats & many ptarmigan feathers near these oases but I was unable to locate the ptarmigan in the low light & with the little time I had. The first chore of the morning was to see if I was correct that ptarmigan did occur ~~there~~ near these spots & not just at the heads of north facing cirques. To my surprise I found 35 W.T. Ptarmigan within a very few minutes & I surely missed some others. I heard calls from one direction but didn't check them out for example. The birds I saw were ~~all~~



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

Aug. 25 Snowy Mtn, Okanagan Range, B.C., Canada

in small groups but all within a 100yd square area. Most were groups of young with a ♀. There were 1♀+4 yng, 1♀+1 yng (small), 1♀+2 yng, 1♀+5 yng, 1♀+1 yng (small). The remaining birds formed one group of 17 ♂'s.

These groupings differed conspicuously from those seen two days ago at the heads of the cirques. They were nearly always in pairs (1♀+1♂). No young were seen.

Plants to be added to the previous list:

Below Timberline in the park area: Parnassia, Fragaria.

Above timberline: Sibbaldia, Bearberry (Actostaphylos),  
Antennaria, Golden Fleabane, & a large Silene  
(

Mammals: Coon common, Chipmunk  $\frac{1}{2}$  as frequent as coon, Hoary Marmot (heard, apparently on floor of cirque).

Birds: Clark's Nutcracker - usually down in cirque below cliffs & often several together. Occasionally perch part way up cliffs but rarely approach top.

Prairie Falcon - around top of cirque no. of Snowy Mtn. Dove on me once & then returned but I headed it off by raising my gun vertically.

Water Pipit - common in groups of 10 or so along upper lip of cirques. I saw two feed on a steep snow surface & then end up in a fight.





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

Aug 25

Snowy Mtn., Okanagan Range, B.C., Canada

Marsh Hawk - seen once ~~gliding~~ south over the cirque north of Snowy Mtn & again later over the cirque containing Harvey Lake.

Mtn. Bluebird - several heard near top of cirque no. of Snowy Mtn.

Sparrow Hawk - one seen over ridge west of Snowy Mtn. Later two chasing each other below cliffs of Harvey Lake cirque. The chase (a lazy chase) continued for 10-15 minutes. Usually one would <sup>lazily</sup> follow the other at less than 10 ft. & then periodically dive at the leader & both would **twist** and often end up flying in a new direction.

Rosy Finch - <sup>9:50 AM</sup> two Juvs. flew over the lip of the Snowy Mtn cirque from the south. I gave a chirp & they circled back & landed where I collected both. Both are in molt. One has acquired some black above the bill but no gray yet. The other has scattered gray feathers over the ~~sides~~ sides of its head suggesting it would become a littoralis adult.

At 1:30 PM a Flock of <sup>30</sup> RFs was feeding at the head of the cirque above Harvey Lake. Some were on the steep snow & others were on the dry tundra outside the cirque. I saw 3 with binoculars & these were Juvs.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

Aug. 25

Snowy Mtn., Okanagan Range, B.C., Canada

They flew east before I could get close.

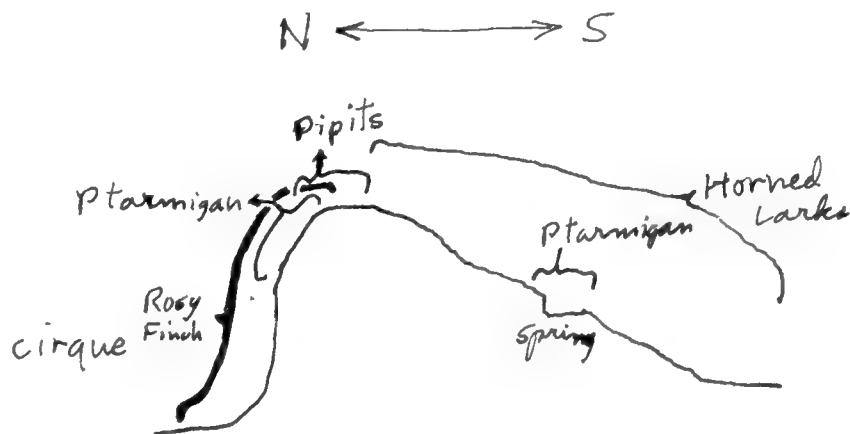
Usually a flock takes off after one or two birds give standard chirps, then a few others add a chirp & finally one or two give an oink note which seems to signal take off. The amount of chirping seems to build before a flight & culminate with the oink note. Not all birds seem to join in however.

A few RF chirps were heard around the cirque thereafter but I couldn't locate them.

Cooper Hawk - one flew 20 ft. from me over the edge of Harry Lake cirque.

White-tailed Ptarmigan - in addition to those ~~mentioned~~ mentioned earlier, 2 ♂'s were seen no. of the cabin on Ptarmigan Ridge & 6 ♂'s were seen in a group  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile west of the same cairn.

Horned Lark - seen on nearly every dry meadow area on south, east & west slopes but never within the cirques.



Itinerary for the day was: Camp → Snowy Mtn → Snowy Mtn cirque → Harry Lake cirque → Snowy Mtn cirque → Ptarmigan Ridge cirque → Harry Lake



R.E. Johnson  
1969

# Journal

Aug. 25

Snowy Mtn, Okanagan Range, B.C., Canada

cirque → Snowy Mtn cirque → camp (8:00 PM).

The smoke is no longer in the valley below. Two columns seem to be coming up from the fire & these are blowing north filling the Okanagan Valley instead of the Similkameen. The sky is again clear at night & the temp. cold. No glow from the fire is visible tonight.

A Coyote called for 10 minutes at about 7:30 PM. Quite an impressive & eerie call.

Evening Grosbeak - about 5 flew north high over Harry Lake cirque. Calling.

Regarding the distribution of birds shown in the sketch on the previous page, it should be noted that there is little overlap of feeding of Rosy Finches, Water Pipits & Horned Larks. The Pipits are on the ridge tops & the other two species take opposite (north or south) slopes below this ridge top. This greatly reduces competition for food & assume.

Aug. 26 Okanagan Range to Hope area, B.C., Canada

Hiked back to car, skinned the 2 Rosy Finches, drove down to the Hwy & swam & bathed in the Similkameen River, drove to Hope for mail, then to Chilliwack for 9000 mile warranty check & lub on VW, then drove north through Hope to Yale & camped beside the rd. Rain in Hope, Chilliwack & Yale.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969Aug. 27 Yale to Prince George, B.C., Canada

Drove from Yale to Prince George under cloudy skies. Rain fell at scattered points including Prince George. Stopped at Begbie Lookout (4187 ft.) south of 100 Mile House to take a look at the land pattern from above. Most of the day's route is through rolly country with potholes - all in the Fraser River Valley. Most of the land is forested but there are meadows &/or farms along the way such as at Lac-la-Hache where rosy finches have been reported in winter flocks. The valley is wide & the Cascades & Rockies are barely visible on either side - thus no opportunity for contact for about 250 miles (from Clinton to Prince George). North of Prince George I believe the Rockies & Cascades converge. South of Clinton there are intervening ranges providing some chance of contact. The Marble Range nw of Clinton can be seen from Begbie. It probably has a road to a Rosy Finches. There is ~~is~~ a lookout at 6500 ft which isn't alpine according to the Begbie Lookout who was on that one for two years.

At Prince George I picked up mail & thereafter wrote checks for bills, balanced the bank account & answered letters.

Highest points (many of them) seem to be just over 7000 ft. He says the north<sup>(nw)</sup> end of the range is more alpine. The lookout is on the se end.

Aug. 28 Prince George to Tahtsa Lake, B.C., Canada

Bought groceries, brought journal up to date, picked up mail again

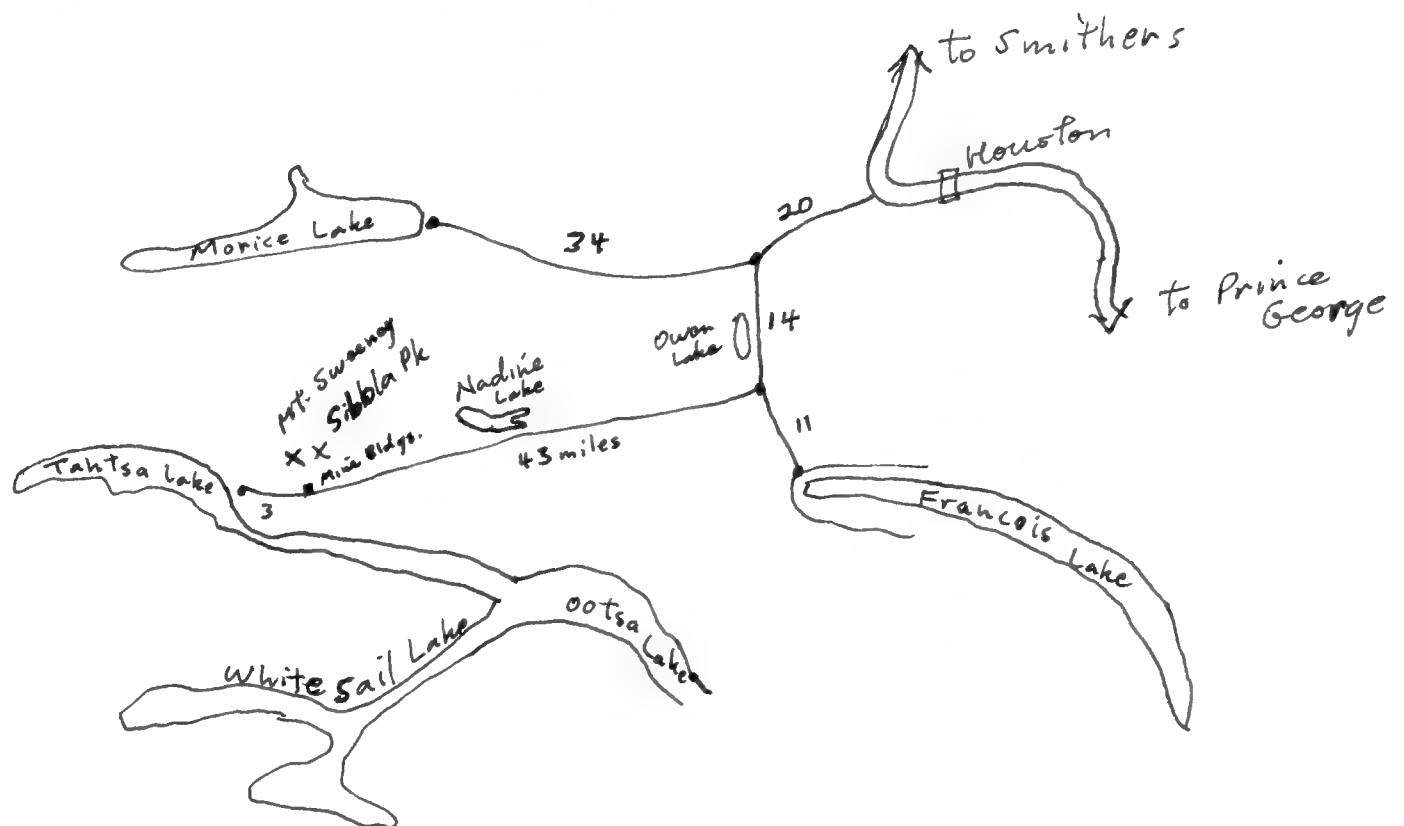




## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969Aug. 28 Prince George to Tahltsa Lake, B.C., Canada

(UC letter-NSF Forms — I borrowed typewriter from librarian & completed & returned forms). Drove northwest on BC Hwy 16 <sup>about 205 miles</sup> through ~~Burns~~ Lake to Houston, & then west & south on a good dirt road to Tahltsa Lake. Sign mileages indicate 80 miles from Houston to the Lake.



At dusk I stopped at some mine bldgs (Emerald Glacier Mine) about 3 miles from the lake & talked to Eric Johnson (a Scotsman!) about roads up the nearby peaks. I ended up spending the night with him in his cabin. There are a couple roads that lead high up the mtns: ① up over Timberline on Sibola Pk & ② up well over 6000 to the south summit of Mt. Sweeney where the mine shaft is located.

It rained all morning in Prince George & off and on in route. It was completely clouded over at Tahltsa Lake & clouds were low enough to obscure some of the mtn. tops.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969Aug. 21 Sibola Pk, Sibola Range, B.C., Canada

Sky completely overcast throughout day but no rain fell during the trip up the peak. Clouds were sometimes below 2000 ft & thus covered the very top of Sibola Pk (7101). Mt. Sweeney & other peaks to the west were covered with clouds throughout the day. Sibola Pk seems to get a little better weather (less rain, higher clouds) as the easternmost peak in this range. not on maps.

Eric rode with me & directed me to the <sup>road</sup> leading high on the south side of Sibola Pk. It is located about a mile east of the mining camp. Where this road crosses Whiting Creek it has been washed out & there are now two <sup>narrow</sup> planks to cross it. Eric lined them up & I drove over. The road climbs easily at first, then more steeply & becomes loose rock. Finally I had to stop (too steep & loose). A 4-wheel vehicle could easily go another half mile to almost 6000 ft. Timberline is just below 5500 ft.

The route followed from the end of the road was: nw up the ridge to the top of Sibola Pk (7101 ft.), then west & north around the ridge top above & west of the glacier north of Sibola Pk to another peak indicated as at least 7000 ft on the map (looks higher than Sibola), down the south side of this peak to the glacier & around the foot of the glacier & east side of Sibola Pk to the road.

Just above where I parked the road crosses a flat bench covered with meadows. Above this the route is more rocky with less vegetation. The south & west slopes are



R.E. Johnson  
1969

Journal

Aug. 29 Sibola Pk, Sibola Range, B.C., Canada

Talus or rock slides with occasional bands of turf. North & east faces were steeper & had cliffs & glaciers below.

Plant species: Cassiope, Phyllodoce sp., Mtn. Harebell, Showy Fleabane, Sibbaldia, Willow, Dryas, Cinquefoil (several sp.), Carpet Pink, Alpine Fireweed, Meadow Spirea, Empetrum, Stonecrop, Antennaria, Indian Paint Brush, Senecio, Sedge, Valerian.

Hoary Marmots were heard but not seen. Birds: Sparrow Hawk, Horned Lark, Water Pipit, Rosy Finch, & Ptarmigan. A flock of Rosy Finches were found on the west slope of the ridge connecting the two peaks & 3 were collected & two others seen closely. All 5 were littoralis. The flock numbered about 40. ~~Three~~ Ptarmigan were seen near the same area. They flew when I was 150 yds away & approaching from above. They appeared very flighty (unusual). I think they were White-tailed Ptarmigan because I thought I saw the tail (white out feathers) well enough & the call they gave in flight sounded right. However Eric thought he saw black in the outer tail feathers. So identity in doubt. The other 3 species were common. I collected a Water Pipit.

We returned to the mining camp for the night and I changed a tire I tore up on the road.

This is the road shown on the Whitesail Lake 1:250,000 topo Map (sheet 93 E, Edition 2 ASE, Series A502). On that map it shows it only going to 4800  $\pm$  ft. & it shows a mine at 5200  $\pm$  ft. This is the old camp & mine. The road now goes to 6500 ft. & there are additional shafts at several locations above the old one

## Journal

R. E. Johnson  
1969Aug. 30. Mt. Sweeney, Sibola Range, B.C., Canada

Though I probably should have stuffed yesterday's birds & headed south because I'm behind schedule, Eric & I instead decided to drive up the mine road (Emerald Glacier Mine) on Mt. Sweeney. <sup>see opposing page.</sup> This road takes off about a mile west of camp. (A new road is being built which starts much closer to camp).

The road is blocked by a bulldozer parked crossways & Eric had to move it first. This proved more difficult than expected - it wouldn't start.

After an hour of repair work it started but he couldn't put it back because the clutch linkage came undone. (It's an old old dozer). We drove on up the road in his truck (since I no longer have a spare tire) & then his truck had trouble (water in gas perhaps or fuel pump).

More delays. Finally at 11:30 AM our feet were on the mtn & off looking for birds. The road goes to the top of a 6500 ft. peak south of Sweeney. We couldn't quite drive all the way (too steep on last pitch). On the way up I had seen a flock of what might have been Rosy Finches flying west at about 6000 ft. I never saw them again.

Instead of hiking the ridge all the way north to the top of Mt. Sweeney (7216 ft.) I decided to explore all parts of the southern peak where the road was, especially since this was nearer the





12th & 13th.

Spencer spent the day  
forgetting again. The morning  
I was out before 10 o'clock  
kind of phlegm. The morning  
circumstances. The same as before  
definitely what should be done  
but the large number of men  
about. I expected to have some  
numbers but to carry them with  
but I was a way to be with the  
problem. So until I could have to  
visit another large number of them  
have some but to another. It  
turned out that both the first and second  
the number of that first was 11 and  
thought out, the latter was 12.  
The result (the first) was 11 and the  
for a small house the number of the first  
for a small house the number of the first  
was up there a thick line.



for the first time in my life  
I have seen a blue bird. It  
was a young one (very small) but it was  
not a blue bird.

I have seen many other things  
but nothing like this. It was  
very pretty and I wish I  
could get out with the others and  
have some more of them. I wish  
I could.

I wish I had the best  
address near you.

Respectfully,

Robert R. R.



## Journal

R. E. Johnson  
1969

Aug. 30

Mt. Sweeney, Sibola Range, B.C., Canada

Flock I'd seen & was vegetated whereas Mt. Sweeney proper was very barren (more so than Sibola). However only one additional Rosy Finch was seen. It was on a <sup>north facing</sup> cliff overlooking a glacier. Water Pipits & Horned Larks were common. I collected a Horned Lark. I saw one group of 3 Ptarmigan & collected one (the largest) male. It should be a Willow Pt. by range according to Peterson's Field Guide (Willow goes so. to central BC; Rock south to no. BC) but it appears too dark. Even so I think its body wt is too light for a Rock Ptarmigan. I'll have to wait till Berkeley to identify it. Later I collected one of two White-tailed Ptarmigan at the same elevation. Again the white-tails appeared flighty & the others did not. Sparrow Hawks were common at about 6000 ft. on the south slope & 3 were seen at the old camp at timberline (5000 ft.).

We saw a pair (♂ & ♀) of Mtn Goats on the same cliffs with the rosy finches. Wolverine tracks explored the whole mtn (tracks in snow) & were fresh. Hoary Marmots were common on a meadow at about 5700 ft. On this meadow & vicinity were seen the following plants: Thistle, Yarrow, Penstemon virens, Mtn. Sorrel, Cinquefoil, Creeping Juniper, Jacob's Ladder, Horsetail, Sedum, False Dandelion, Willowweed, Indian Paint Brush, Showy Fleabane, Alpine Fireweed, Cow Parsnip, Arnica,



R.E. Johnson  
1969

Journal

aug. 30

Mt. Sweeney, Sibola Range, B.C., Canada

Valerian, Lupine, Parmassia, Forgetmenot, Lewis  
Monkeyflower, Senecio, Corn Lily, & Meadow Rue.  
Higher up (near 6500 ft.) the plants were: Cassiope,  
Phyllodoce sp., Carpet Pink, Sedum, Mtn. Sorrell, Willow,  
Sibbaldia, Antennaria, Chickweed, Meadow Spirea.

at timberline at the old camp I saw  
a Fox Sparrow, a Golden-crowned Sparrow, a  
Blue Grouse with at least 2 young, 3  
Sparrow Hawks & a Small Owl (Pygmy I  
think).

We returned down the road, stopping briefly  
a mile from the main road to look at fossils  
(scallop, clams, Nautilus shells). When we got to camp,  
the boss (mine superintendent) had arrived & he was  
cooking up steaks, etc! A great meal. A  
number of other visitors arrived & kept me from  
getting anything new done in the evening except  
looking at a couple flowers more closely.

There is a Saxifrage <sup>Saxifraga tricuspidata</sup> at 6500 ft. that has a  
flower much like the Spotted Saxifrage but its  
leaves are broader & have three teeth at their tips: <sup>My</sup>.  
The whole growth form is the same. Were it not for  
the leaves I would have called it Spotted Saxifrage.

The clouds were higher over this peak today than  
yesterday but they lowered after we left. It rained at  
camp most of the night.





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

Aug 31.

Taktsa Lake to Smithers, B.C., Canada

Skinned the two Ptarmigan & weighed them & their hearts on a scale in the assay office. Rain continues. Drove to Houston & then north to Smithers & around Kath~~lyn~~<sup>lyn</sup> Lake & up Glacier Gulch to the end of the road (2400 ft.) below a pair of waterfalls from Kath~~lyn~~<sup>lyn</sup> Glacier which is barely visible from below. There is no trail up beyond the falls but a couple boys had just returned from a steep wet scramble up the left side of the canyon to the glacier, so it can be done. ~~to~~

I skinned the 3 Rosy Finches from Sibola Pk & then camped for the night. It rained most of the evening & night.

Sept. 1

Hudson Bay Mtn., B.C., Canada

Still raining. Clouds so low you can't see the waterfalls. Skinned the Water Pipit & Horned Lark from the Sibola Range. Washed me in the rain. Drove to town for gas & groceries. Then drove up to a snow ski area on the southwest slope of Hudson Bay Mtn. The route from town (Smithers) is: Drive west on the main street of town to the Canadian National Railroad Depot & turn south along the east side of the tracks & continue for some distance ~~until the road~~ <sup>then</sup> crossing the tracks & heading west & south again. Soon signs will be seen indicating road names: ours is Hudson Bay Mtn. Rd. It passes north of Seymour Lake,



R.E. Johnson  
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# Journal

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Sept. 1

Hudson Bay Mtn., B.C., Canada

skirts the south end of ~~E~~ Hudson Bay Mtn & then climbs to the ski area. The road is good (dirt) but becomes muddy near the top after a rain (such as now). The end of the good road is probably about 5000 ft. which is just below timberline. Here there are a number of new ski cabins & a couple rope tows. These run up to about 5400 ft which is the level of a flat + meadow area (tundra) of about  $\frac{3}{4}$  sq. mile area. It forms a high bench on the se corner of Hudson Bay Mtn. Plants seen include: Empetrum, Cassiope, Meadow Spirea, Sibbaldia, several sp. of Cinquefoil, Willow, Phyllodoce sp., Showy Fleabane, Valerian, Harebell, Senecio, Willowweed, Carpet Pink, Spurge, False Dandelion, Forgetmemot (Myosotis) Blue Gentian, Antennaria, Paint Brush, Lousewort, Cottonweed, the species of Saxifraga <sup>Saxifraga tricuspidata</sup> resembling Spotted Saxifrage, & many kinds of Lichen. When I first arrived at 3 PM the clouds were at ground level on this meadow but as I hiked upward the clouds continued to rise until finally the top of an 8000 ft. pk occasionally appeared just to the north. I hiked upward & to the north to the 7500 ft level on the ridge top leading to the higher peaks & at that point the clouds began to lower again & a steady rain began. I returned down & explored the meadow again & then back to the car. There was no vegetation except lichens above 6200 ft or so. Above this point many kinds of lichen were common. This is the first place I've visited this summer where the elevation surpassed seed plant vegetation line. No animals were seen at



# Journal

Below are mtns to north of Hudson Bay Mtn.

Mt. Rocher Déboulé just south of Hazelton. MVZ has specimens from  
Nine Mile Mtn just north of Hazelton.







## Journal

Pine Pass, BC

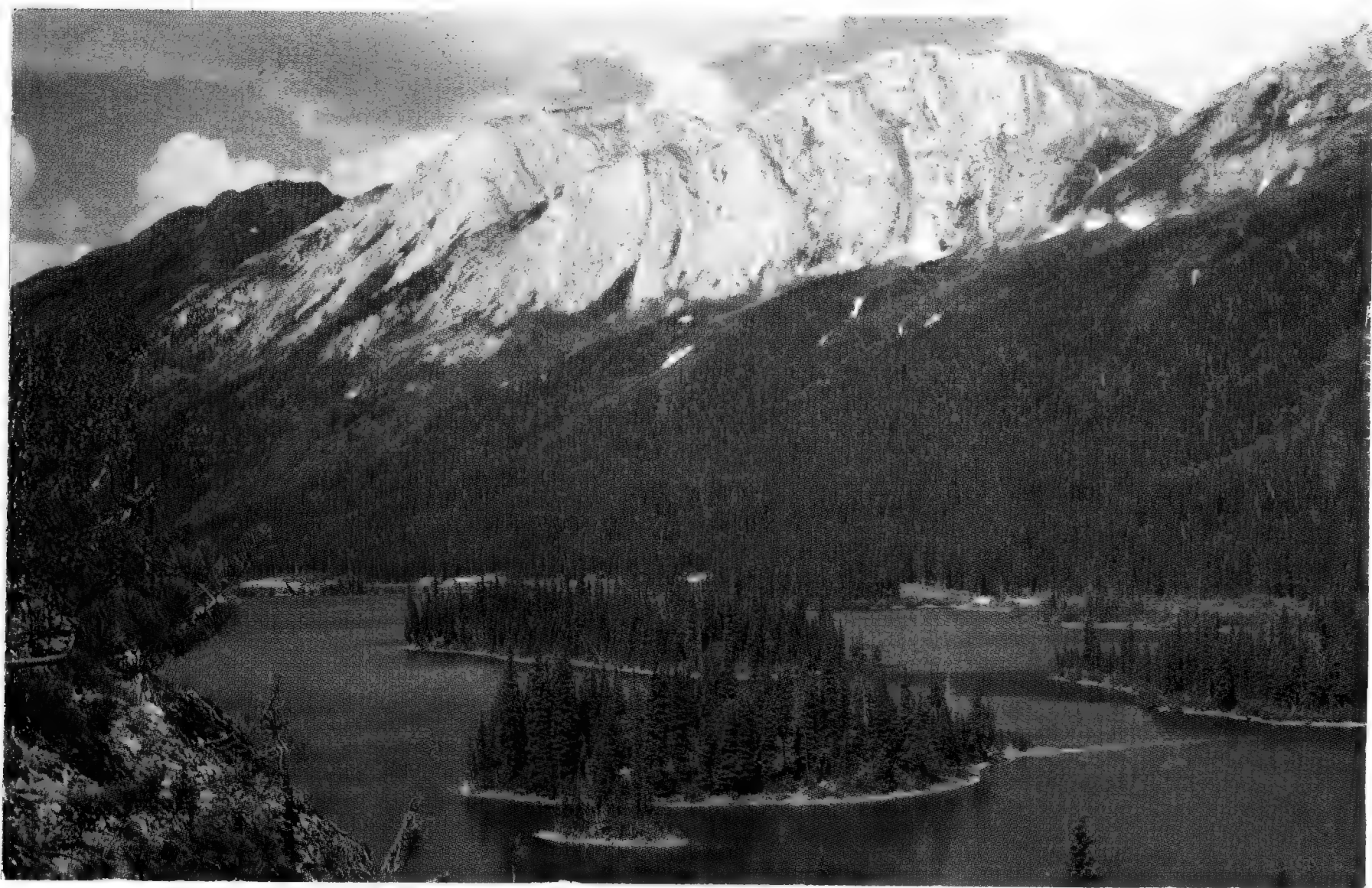
I had wanted to return from Prince George, BC to the US by way of Pine Pass, Dawson Creek, & Edmonton but time was gone & I traveled south via the shortest route instead.

Pine Pass ~~route~~ is the route of Hwy 97 over the Murray Range (pictured). Azouzetta Lake is below (foreground).

Elevation of pass : 2900+ ft.

Elevation of highest pks : 6000 ft.

Elevation of Lake : 2855 ft.



See: Pine Pass 1/250000 & Azouzetta lake 1/50000 (93 % East)  
Topo maps.





Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

Sept. 1

Hudson Bay Mtn., B.C., Canada

These elevations either.

On the 5400 ft meadow bench I found, flocks of Horned Larks (usually 5-10 per flock) & of Water Pipits (usually 30  $\pm$  per flock). A flock of 6-7 Pine Siskins flew over.

MT. Goat tracks were seen on rocky ridge above. Hoary Marmots occurred at the upper north margins of the meadow. I found a  $\varnothing$  (collected) & 2 large young Ptarmigan feeding on the meadow. I am unsure of the species. The tail was in molt in all three & feathers had white tips! I had no way to weigh the bird.

This meadow is often spongy like the Alaskan tundra but not so deep & it also has many ponds.

Also collected 2 Water Pipits & a Horned Lark.

Camped at Glacier Gulch.

Sept. 2.

Smithers, B.C., Canada to Jasper Nat. Park, Alberta, Canada

Still Raining & very low clouds. Stuffed the Pipits & Lark & drove to Smithers to obtain a new tire & a couple topo maps (city hall has them!). Couldn't get a tire replaced (defective Firestone) so I tried again at Burns Lake & finally Prince George where I got one. Also picked up my last mail at Prince George. Drove the new highway to Jasper (part is still unpaved but excellent road bed). Rained all day. Saw my 1st star in 2 wks!

Sept. 3

Jasper Nat. Park, Alberta, Canada to East Glacier, Montana

Rain Followed me most of the day. There had been no rain since I left Glacier a month ago but its raining



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

Sept. 3 Jasper Nat'l Park, Alberta, Canada To East Glacier, Montana  
now! I explored the Jasper area until noon  
(saw Sunwapta Falls, Athabasca Falls, Angel Glacier on  
Mt. Edith Cavell, etc, etc) & then drove south through  
Banff to Calgary & south to the border & on to East  
Glacier to clean up (warm water). Met <sup>one of</sup> Paula's  
boy friends from Virginia (Harry Wadsworth). Camped  
at Two Medicine in the rain & wind. Beautiful storm.

Sept. 4. East Glacier, Montana

Saw Paula & Harry in the morning. Harry left for  
Calif in the afternoon, Paula worked & I wrote letters &  
etc. Bought 6 photomailers for film rolls taken in Canada &  
got these ready to mail. Spent evening with Paula.  
Camped at Two Medicine again in rain.

Sept. 5 East Glacier to West Glacier, Montana

Examined the black & white photo files at Headquarters  
for good photos for use in the trail guide. Called  
Dr. Wright in Missoula about taking song finches from  
U of Montana with me to Calif. (he says OK). He went  
to Rock Lake in the Cabinet & obtained a Hoary Marmot -  
the first known in that mtn. range! (See my notes  
July 20, 1969). So for once my observations proved useful!  
He wanted me to go with him to the Anaconda Range so we  
planned a trip there following my 2 days on the  
Beartooth Plateau.

Visited with Francis Elmore for 3 hours in the evening.  
Camped at Apper Campground.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

Sept. 6. Glacier National Park to Bear Dance <sup>Picnic</sup> ~~Camp~~ ground, Flathead Lake, Montana

Skinned the Ptarmigan obtained on Hudson Bay Mtn., wrote several cards, drove to East Glacier & explored the trail from East Glacier toward Firebrand Pass with Paula. Drove Paula to the train station & saw her off to Virginia. Drove back through West Glacier & south through Big Fork to Bear Dance picnic area on Flathead Lake & camped there.

Sept. 7 Bear Dance to Missoula to Butte, Montana

Brought journal up to date, then drove south to Missoula. Saw 2 Pileated Woodpeckers in the dead spike top of a 6 ft. dbh live Ponderosa Pine at Bear Dance. Had planned to see both Dean Beisemeyer & Dr. Wright while in Missoula but missed both of them. Spent considerable time with Dr. Templeton experimenting with temperature regulation of a lizard implanted with an artificial internal heat source. Showered. Drove to Butte.

Sept. 8 Butte to Beartooth Pass, Wyoming

Bought groceries, cashed a check, picked up mail, & got car lubed (12000 mile warranty check). Drove s. & e. to Livingston & the south to Mammoth Hot Springs & east to Beartooth Pass & beyond about a mile to the "Pipit Hill" study area used by Nico Verbeek & Don Pattie a number of years ago. I arrived shortly after 5 PM & collected 13 Juv. Rosy Finches & 2 Water Pipits among more of both species that were feeding above (sw).



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969Sept. 8 Butte to Beartooth Pass, Wyoming

of the study area. I could have collected 10-20 more Pipits but I was afraid to get too far behind in stuffing. Clouds appeared in the west late in the day & some rain fell west of the pass. Cleared before 8 PM.

Sept. 9. Beartooth Pass area, Park Co., Wyoming

Kathy Bell (U. of Colorado) arrived at 7 AM and we managed to kill most of the day talking & doing little work. However she did finally explore the area to see if Kobresia was present (she had been told it hadn't been found there but was a possibility). She looked in the places suggested & found none but did find Carex <sup>elynoide</sup> ~~illinoide~~ which she had been told was not present on the Beartooth Plateau. She plans to study Kobresia for a Ph.D. degree at U. of Alberta starting this fall.

The tundra is now very dry & no new snow has fallen. The most abundant plant appears to be Geum rossii (often 50% of plant population). Other species include: Gentiana algida, Arenaria (Minuartia) obtusiloba, Phlox difusa, Trifolium nanum, Lupinus sp., Lomatium coors, Luzula sp., Juncus sp., Draba sp., Androsace septentrionalis, Carex illinoide, Seleginella densa, Polemonium viscosum, Sedum stenopetalum, Sedum rosea, Saxifraga bronchialis, Potentilla diversifolia, Polygonum bistortoides, Deschampsia caespitosa, Caltha sp., Antennaria sp., Oxyria ~~digyna~~ digyna, Silene acaulis, Salix sp., Cerastium arvense.





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969Sept. 9 Beartooth Pass area, Park Co., Wyoming

Kathy identified most of the plants listed above. Many are new to me.

Rosy Finches, Water Pipits & Horned Larks, each in small flocks, were seen often throughout the day. I collected one Rosy Finch. Prairie Falcons were seen twice, Mtn Bluebirds (6) were seen once, one Vesper Sparrow & one W.C. Sparrow were seen. Yellow-bellied Marmots & Pikas were common in certain areas (rocky) but not on large areas of tundra which have only scattered smaller rocks protruding through the turf.

The sky again clouded up late in the day, but no rain fell east of Beartooth Pass. Clouds cleared, as ~~was~~ before.

Sept. 10 Beartooth Pass area, Park Co., Wyoming

Skinned the 13 Rosy Finches in record time (8 hrs). Kathy collected Willow plants all morning & returned to have lunch with me before leaving for Edmonton. I ~~did~~ hiked around Pipit Hill in an attempt to collect Pipits & saw none! I did see W.C. Sparrows at water holes around the bases of large boulders in the tundra, Mtn. Bluebirds, Horned Larks, one Rosy Finch (collected it), Yellow-bellied Marmots & Conys. I drove west to Long Lake to spend the night. Again the sky was cloudy late in the day, but clouding began before noon & extended a little further to the



R.E. Johnson  
1969

## Journal

Sept. 10 Beartooth Pass area, Park Co., Wyoming  
east. A few bursts of rain occurred at Long Lake in the evening but the sky cleared by 10 PM.

Sept. 11 Beartooth Pass area to Red Lodge, Montana

Drove back to Pipit Hill area & on toward Red Lodge stopping just inside the Montana border & taking a dirt side road to the right up the headwaters of Wyoming Creek. There I collected a number of Water Pipits for Nico Verbeek's molt study. Horned Larks were even more common than Pipits. A flock of 10 Pine Siskins, two Ravens, 2 Vesper Sparrows & several W.C. Sparrows were also seen. I noted that the pipits are usually near water (where creeks run through fell field or other <sup>barren</sup> rocky areas) & not often on the drier tundra. The Horned Larks may be anywhere but are most commonly on the dry tundra. I saw one Golden-mantled Ground Squirrel - the only one I've seen here. The rest of this species must be in hibernation now.

I noted both Cerastium arvense & another Cerastium which is a bit taller, with larger broader leaves, fewer leaves on the stems, & a more sticky feel due to abundant glandular hairs on the stems, ~~sepal~~ & leaves.

At 2 PM I drove down to Red Lodge for supplies (fresh fruit, white gas, gas) & to call Dr. Wright. Again clouds built up during the day & rain began



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

Sept. 11

Beartooth Pass area to Red Lodge, Montana

over the Beartooth Plateau between noon + 2:30 PM depending on the area. The rain followed me to Red Lodge + started there at 3 PM. Occasional rain fell on into the night. Slushy snow fell above 9500 ft.

I skinned the two Water Pipits of Sept. 8, the Rosy Finches of Sept. 9 + 10. Camped on Rock Creek at US Forest Service's Parkside Campground several <sup>(approx 12)</sup> miles west of Red Lodge. Brought Journal up to date.

Sept. 12

Red Lodge to Missoula, Montana

Overcast with occasional rain + thunder over the Beartooth Plateau. I drove back to Wyoming Creek where I collected the Pipits yesterday and walked the entire area between 8 + 9 PM. There were no Pipits + few Horned Larks. I noted a few more species of plants: Stellaria sp., Arenaria congesta? (the plant observed had 5 styles instead of 3), Willowweed, Buttercup, Yarrow, + Phyllodoce sp.. This is the first heather I've seen in the Beartooth Mts. I've seen no Cassiope at all. There is no Phyllodoce on the tundra plateau. What I saw as ~~in~~ north draining slopes of Wyoming Creek just above the top of the band of willows that stand 1-2 feet tall (the highest shrubs).

I drove back up to the Pipit Hill - Beartooth Pass area + collected 2 Rosy Finches (Jura) + many <sup>10</sup> Water Pipits. A flock of 70 Rosy Finches chased a Falcon over Gardner Lake. Ten minutes later the flock



## Journal

R. E. Johnson  
1969

Sept. 12 Red Lodge to Missoula, Montana

fed on the slopes above the north end of the lake and a Marsh Hawk dove on them & chased them upward & west toward the pass. Marsh Hawks were seen on two other occasions later in the morning. I saw the first Chipmunks of this trip just below the road above Gardner Lake. There were at least 2 & probably 3 and also another Golden-mantled Ground Squirrel. So not all the small rodents are in hibernation yet.

I drove on to Clay Butte & collected 5 more Water Pipits from a flock on the ne slopes near the top. The top is a <sup>tall</sup> grassy meadow. Other plants are Yarrow, Senecio, Arnica, & Fleabane. On route here from Beartooth Pass I noted flocks of pipits in the lower meadows which are below timberline.

Drove west to Mammoth Hot Springs, then on to Livingstone, Bozeman, Butte, & Missoula. Showered in Missoula. Camped in Pattee Canyon.

Sept. 13 Missoula, Montana

Dr. Wright is gone again! but left his key so I can get the Rosy Finches from the U. of M. collection. Washed clothes, stuffed Pipits.

Sept. 14 Missoula, Montana

Continued skinning pipits, Packed Rosy Finches, Visited Dean Beisemeyer (U of M psychologist & former Zoologist).

Sept. 15 Missoula, Montana to Moscow, Idaho

Picked up mail in Missoula & drove to Moscow to





# Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

Sept. 15 Missoula, Montana to Moscow, Idaho

visit Dr. Rodney Mead. Examined Rosy Finches in the U of Idaho collection. There are no breeding specimens. Two are L.t. tephrocotis & 10 are L.t. littoralis.

Spoke to Prof. Earl J. Larrison & he said he'd seen Fall (Oct.) rosy finches on St. Joe Baldy, a surprisingly alpine pk ~~west~~ east of St. Maries that I saw in route south to Moscow. The elevation of peaks in that area is only 6000ft at max. I noted in Larrison's popular book on birds of Idaho that he is unaware of records of Rosy Finches in the Selkirk & Seven Devil Mtns. In fact he knows of ~~some~~ no breeding records for L.t.t. in Idaho. French found them in the Seven Devils (published) & I found them in the Seven Devils, Selkirk, & Cabinet.

Had dinner with the Meads & stayed there overnight.

Sept. 16 Moscow, Idaho to Sagehen Creek Research Station, Calif.

Drove south via US 95 & 40 to Truckee, then north to Sagehen Creek via Calif 89. Visited Jenny. Spent the night at Sagehen.

Sept. 17-18 Sagehen Creek, Calif.

Hiked to top of Carpenter Ridge, identified a few plants, etc but generally goofed off. Hunters everywhere.

Sept. 19 Sagehen to Bridgeport, Calif.

Jenny & I drove south to near Bridgeport & camped.

Sept. 20 Bridgeport to Yosemite Valley, Calif.

Continued south to Lee Vining & met my parents, then drove over Tioga Pass to picnic, etc & then down



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969Sept. 20 Bridgeport to Yosemite Valley, Calif.

to Yosemite Valley & camped. Birds at Tuolumne Meadows are mostly Brewers Blackbirds, but Mtn Chickadees, Ravens, & Stellar Jays are also present.

Sept. 21 Yosemite Valley to Berkeley, Calif.

Returned to Tioga Pass, Lee Vining, Sagehen Creek (to leave Jenny off), & then on to Berkeley by 4 AM. Before returning hiked up trail to Falls above Happy Isles. Also put out fire on Tuolumne Meadows, identified flowers, visited Soda Springs & Sierra Club Cabin, & etc.







Johnson, R. E.,

1969 (Part) - 1972

catalogue

#872 - 1080

calif.

Nev.

colo.

Wash.

Idaho





# Catalog

R.E. Johnson

## Cold Bay, Alaskan Peninsula, Alaska

Captured Feb. 7, 1969; Died Nov. 15, 1969 in Berkeley

872 <sup>♂</sup> Rosy Finch <sup>testes</sup> 1.5 x 1 mm 27.0  
(formerly Ynt, Wlt)

## Peavine Mtn (so. slope), 1.7 mi. n. + 4.0 mi. w. of Reno, 5600 ft, Washoe Co., Nevada

Captured Feb. 16, 1969; Died Nov. 15, 1969 in Berkeley

873 <sup>♀</sup> Rosy Finch-L <sup>ovary</sup> 4 x 2 mm very fat! 26.5  
Obviously didn't die of starvation. Had wound in lower breast which  
may have caused death.  
(formerly Y & Lt)

Died in Berkeley Nov. 22, 1969

874 <sup>♂</sup> Rosy Finch-T 4 x 2 mm testes 20.5  
(formerly Wnt)

## Bodie (0.7 e. + 0.5 n. of Bodie), 8900 ft, Mono Co., California

Nov. 23, 1969

875 <sup>♀</sup> Rosy Finch-T <sup>ovary</sup> 3 x 1 mm skull os. 24.5

876 <sup>♂</sup> Rosy Finch-T <sup>testes</sup> 1 x 1 mm skull os. 24.5

Nov. 24, 1969

877 <sup>♂</sup> Rosy Finch-T <sup>testes</sup> 1 x 1 mm skull os. 24.5

878 <sup>♂</sup> Rosy Finch-T <sup>testes</sup> 1 x 1 mm skull os. 24.5

879 <sup>♂</sup> Rosy Finch-T <sup>testes</sup> 1 x 1 mm skull os. 24.5



## Catalog

RE Johnson

Cold Bay, Alaskan Peninsula, Alaska

- 873 ♂ Rosy Finch-G <sup>rt. testes 8x7mm</sup> <sub>lt. testes 9x8mm</sub> <sup>Captured Feb. 7, 1969; Died in Berkeley May 13, 1970</sup> <sub>wt at death 31.0 grams</sub>  
 (banded B on both legs, Rm Ta)
- 

- 874 ♂ Rosy Finch - T <sup>testes 3.5x3mm</sup> <sup>Died April 23, 1970</sup> <sub>wt. at death 17.3g</sub>  
 (banded B on each leg in Rm Ta)



# Catalog

RE. Johnson

## Cottonwood Canyon, 2.3 mi. s. of Bodie, 8100 ft., Mono Co., California

Nov. 24, 1969

- 880 ♂ ? Loggerhead Shrike gonads scrambled but appears to have 2x1 mm testes. skull oz. 46.0

## 1 mi. n. & 0.5 mi. e. of Bodie, 8600 ft., Mono Co., California

Nov. 24, 1969

- 881 ? Water Pipit skull oz. 17.5

## 9 mi. s. & 4 mi. w. of Bodie, 6700 ft., Mono Co., California

Nov. 24, 1969

- 882 ♀ Sage Sparrow ovary 4x3 mm skull oz. 17.0

## Nederland, 8200 ft., Boulder Co., Colorado

Captured March 24, 1969; Died in Berkeley April 14, 1969

- 883 ♂ Rosy Finch - ~~L~~ testes 1x1 mm skull oz. very fat 31.5 g.  
(Formerly banded B rt, 66 lt)

## Bacchus, 4400 ft., Salt Lake Co., Utah

Captured March 19, 1969; Died May 20, 1969 in Berkeley

- 884 ♂ Rosy Finch - T testes 2x2 mm low fat skull oz. 20.0 g.  
(Formerly banded BBrt, Y lt)

## 1 mi. n. & 0.7 mi. e. of Jefferson, 9500 ft., Park Co., Colorado

Captured March 21, 1969; Died in Berkeley May 20, 1969

- 885 ♀ Rosy Finch - T ovary 5x3 mm very fat skull oz. 31.5 g.  
(banded B rt, AR lt)



## Catalog

R.E. Johnson

Nederland, 8200 Ft, Boulder Co., Colorado

Captured March 24, 1969; Died in Berkeley May 27, 1969

- 886 ♂ Rosy Finch - At testes heavy fat skull 29.0  
6x4mm  
(banded Y B Lt)
- 887 ♂ Rosy Finch - Au testes low fat skull 24.0  
9x7mm  
(banded R Rt, W Lt)

Cold Bay, Alaskan Peninsula, AlaskaCaptured Feb. 7, 1969; Died May 27, 1969 ~~in~~ in Berkeley

- 888 ♂ Rosy Finch - G testes med. Fat skull 42.0 g.  
8x6mm  
(banded R B rt)
- 889 ♂ Rosy Finch - G testes low fat skull 34.5 g  
5x3mm  
(banded B Y rt)

Captured Feb. 7, 1969; Died Dec. 19, 1969 in Berkeley

- 890 ♂ Rosy Finch - G testes low fat skull 33.5 g  
1x1mm  
(banded R rt, R Lt)

Nederland, 8200 Ft, Boulder Co., Colorado

Captured March 24, 1969; Died in Berkeley March 31, 1969

- 891 ♀ Rosy Finch - L ovary low fat skull 17.0 g.  
4x2mm  
(not banded)

Pearce Mtn, 1.7 mi. n. + 4.0 mi. w. of Reno, 5600 Ft, Washoe Co., Nevada

Captured Feb. 16, 1969; Died Nov. 30, 1969 in Berkeley

- 892 ♂ Rosy Finch - T testes no fat skull 22.0  
2x1mm  
(banded G R Lt)

Cold Bay, Alaskan Peninsula, Alaska

Captured Feb. 7, 1969; Died Nov. 30, 1969 in Berkeley

- 893 ♂? Rosy Finch - G (banded R rt, B Lt) 26.5





## Catalog

Cold Bay, Alaskan Peninsula, Alaska

Captured Feb. 7, 1969; Died Dec. 20, 1969 in Berkeley

894	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 1.5 x 1 mm	(no bands)	skull os	30.5
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0.5 mi. n. of Eureka, 6400 ft., Eureka Co., Nevada

March 17, 1969

895	♂	Rosy Finch-L	testes 1.5 x 1.5 mm	crop wt. 0.5 g	fat mod <del>mod</del>	skull os	31.5
896	♂	Rosy Finch-L	testes 1 x 1 mm	crop wt. 1.4 g	fat low-mod	skull os	29.5
897	♂	Rosy Finch-L	testes 1 x 1 mm	crop wt. 1.8	fat low	skull os	28.0
898	♀	Rosy Finch-L	ovary 4 x 3 mm	crop wt. 1.6	low fat	skull os	28.0
899	♀	Rosy Finch-L	ovary 5 x 4 mm (darker than typical tephrocotis)	crop wt. 1.3	low fat	skull os	27.5
900	♀	Rosy Finch-L	ovary 6 x 3 mm	crop wt. 1.4	mod fat	skull os	29.0
901	♂	Rosy Finch-A	testes 1 x 1 mm	crop wt. 1.0	low fat	skull os	25.5
902	♀	Rosy Finch-T	ovary 5 x 3 mm	crop wt. 1.5	low fat	skull os	26.0
903	♂	Rosy Finch-T	testes 1 x 1 mm	crop wt. 0.7	low fat	skull os	27.5
904	♂	Rosy Finch-T	testes 1 x 1 mm	crop wt. 0.2	low fat	skull os	26.0
905	♀	Rosy Finch-T	ovary 5 x 3 mm	crop wt. 0.6	low fat	skull os	25.5



## Catalog

R.E. Johnson

0.5 mi. n. of Eureka, 6400 ft., Eureka Co., Nevada

March 17, 1969

906	♂	Rosy Finch-T	testes 1x1mm	crop wt. 0.5	low fat	skull os	27.0
907	♂	Rosy Finch-T	testes 1.5x1.5mm	crop wt 0.9	low fat	skull os	28.0
908	♂	Rosy Finch-T	testes 1x1mm	crop wt 0.9	low fat	skull os	28.0
909	♂	Rosy Finch-T	testes 1x1mm	crop wt 0.7	low fat	skull os	28.0
910	♀	Rosy Finch-T	ovary 4x3mm	crop wt. ?	low fat	skull os	28.5
911	♂	Rosy Finch-T	testes 0.5x0.5mm (darker than typical tephrocotis)	crop wt. 1.6	low fat	skull os	30.0
912	♀	Rosy Finch-T	ovary 2x2mm	crop wt. 1.5	low fat	skull os	28.5
913	♀	Rosy Finch-T	ovary 4x2mm	crop wt 0.6	low fat	skull os	27.5
914	♂	Rosy Finch-T	testes 1x1mm	crop wt 0.5	low fat	skull os	27.5
915	♀	Rosy Finch-T	ovary 4x2mm	crop wt. 0.7	low fat	skull os	28.5
916	♀	Rosy Finch-T	ovary 4x2mm	crop wt ?	low fat	skull os	27.5
917	♀	Rosy Finch-T	ovary 6x2mm	crop wt 1.5	low fat	skull os	28.0
918	♀	Rosy Finch-T	ovary 6x3mm	crop wt. 0.7	low fat	skull os	26.0



# Catalog

R.E. Johnson

0.5 mi. n. of Eureka, 6400 ft, Eureka Co., Nevada

March 17, 1969

919	♀	Rosy Finch-T	ovary 4x3mm	crop wt. 0.7	low fat	skull oz	26.5
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920	♂	Rosy Finch-T	testes 1x1mm		low fat	skull oz	26.5
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1 mi. s. & 0.8 mi. w. of Jefferson, 9500 ft, Park Co., Colorado

March 22, 1969

10:35 PM

921	♂	Rosy Finch-T	testes 1x1mm	crop empty	high fat	skull oz	28.0
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0.4 mi. s. & 0.4 mi. w. of Jefferson, 9500 ft, Park Co., Colorado

March 25, 1969

5:00 - 5:30 PM

922	♂	Rosy Finch-T	testes 1x1mm	crop wt. 1.5	high fat	skull oz	31.5
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923	♀	Rosy Finch-T	ovary 7x3mm	crop wt. 0.4	high fat	skull oz	29.5
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924	♂	Rosy Finch-T	testes 1x1mm	crop wt. 1.2	high fat	skull oz	28.5
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925	♂	Rosy Finch-T	testes 1x1mm	crop wt. 1.7	high fat	skull oz	29.5
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926	♀	Rosy Finch-L	ovary 3x2mm	crop wt. 1.1	high fat	skull oz	33.5
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927	♀	Rosy Finch-Au	ovary 3x2mm	crop wt. 0.7	low-med fat	skull oz	27.0
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1.3 mi. s. & 0.1 mi. w. of Jefferson, 9500 ft, Park Co., Colorado

March 25, 1969

8:05 - 8:50 PM

928	♂	Rosy Finch-T	testes 1x1mm	crop empty	high fat	skull oz	30.5
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## Catalog

R.E. Johnson

1.3 mi. s. & 0.1 mi. w. of Jefferson, 9500 ft., Park Co., Colorado

March 25, 1969

8:05 - 8:50 PM

- 929 ♂ Rosy Finch-T testes 1.5x1mm crop empty [Giz  $\frac{1}{2}$  full] high fat skull os 30.0
- 930 ♂ Rosy Finch-T testes 1x1mm crop empty [Giz  $\frac{1}{2}$  full] high fat skull os 30.0
- 931 ♂ Rosy Finch-T testes 1x1mm crop empty [Giz  $\frac{1}{4}$  full] high fat skull os 28.5

1 mi. s. & 0.8 mi. w. of Jefferson, 9500 ft., Park Co., Colorado

March 25, 1969

7:32 - 7:42 PM

- 932 ♂ Rosy Finch-Au testes 2x1.5mm crop empty [Giz Full] fat low-mod skull os 28.0
- 933 ♂ Rosy Finch - At (Badly shot up) testes 1x1mm crop partly shot away but has some food 0.3 [Giz  $\frac{3}{4}$  full] fat low? skull os 24.0
- 934 ♂ Rosy Finch - T testes 1x1mm crop empty [Giz  $\frac{1}{4}$  full] mod fat skull os 26.5

6 mi. s. & 3 mi. e. of Alder, 8400 ft., Saguache Co., Colorado

March 26, 1969

9:45 AM

- 935 ♂ Rosy Finch-T testes 1x1mm crop empty mod-high fat skull os 30.0
- 936 ♀ Rosy Finch-T ovary 2x3mm crop wt. 0.6 mod fat skull os 28.5

2 mi. e. & 3 mi. n. of Wolf Creek Pass, 9600 ft., Mineral Co., Colorado

March 26, 1969

12:20 PM

- 937 ♂ Rosy Finch - Au testes 1.5x1mm crop wt. 0.4 low fat skull os 24.5
- 938 ♂ Rosy Finch - Au testes 1.5x1.5mm crop wt. 0.3 low fat skull os 26.5





## Catalog

R.E. Johnson

Nederland, 8200 ft., Boulder Co., Colorado

Captured March 24, 1969; Died March 26, 1969  
 938a ♀ Rosy Finch-T ovary 3x3mm skull os wt. at death 17.5

Captured March 21, 1969; Died March 23, 1969  
 939 ♀ Rosy Finch-T ovary 6x1mm skull os wt. at death 19.0

Captured March 21, 1969; Died March 24, 1969  
 940 ♀ Rosy Finch-T ovary 3x2mm skull os wt. at death 19.5

941 ♀ Rosy Finch-T ovary 3x3mm skull os 21.5

942 ♂ Rosy Finch-C testes 1x1mm skull os 19.0

Cold Bay, Alaskan Peninsula, Alaska

Captured Feb. 7, 1969; Died May 30, 1969  
 (killed for blood protein studies)

943 ♀ Rosy Finch ovary 7x4mm heavy fat skull os 49.2

944 ♀ Rosy Finch ovary 7x4mm mod fat (banded G rt, R lt) skull os 39.8  
 (no bands)

945 ♀ Rosy Finch ovary 7x4mm heavy fat (banded W rt, R lt) skull os 48.5

946 ♂ Rosy Finch testes 10x7mm heavy fat (W rt, W lt) skull os 42.2

947 ♂ Rosy Finch testes 8x6mm mod fat (banded G rt) skull os 41.2



## Catalog

R. E. Johnson

Cold Bay, Alaskan Peninsula, Alaska

Caught Feb. 7, 1969; Died May 30, 1969

948	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 10x7 mm	light-mod fat (banded B rt, w lt)	skull or	37.5
949	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 9x6 mm	mod-heavy fat (banded B lt)	skull or	45.8
950	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 10x8 mm	(banded R rt, Y lt)	skull or	40.9
951	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 10x7 mm	(unbanded)	skull or	40.1
952	♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 7x4 mm	heavy fat (R rt, B lt)	skull or	46.6
953	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 8x7 mm	heavy fat (unbanded)	skull or	43.3
954	♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 13x3 mm	heavy fat (B B rt)	skull or	39.2
955	♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 9x4 mm	heavy fat (banded w rt, Y lt)	skull or	42.7
956	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 10x7 mm	heavy fat (B rt, G lt)	skull or	43.3
957	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 9x7 mm	heavy fat (banded B rt)	skull or	54.9
958	♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 8x3 mm	low fat (banded G rt, Y lt)	skull or	39.4
959	♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 8x6 mm	high fat (banded B rt, R lt)	skull or	51.2



## Catalog

R.E. Johnson

Nederland, 8200 ft., Boulder Co., Colorado

Captured March 24, 1969; Died May 30, 1969

959<sub>a</sub> ♂ Rosy Finch - Au testes mod-heavy fat skull 27.7  
 (banded - Silver Lt)

960 ♂ Rosy Finch - Au testes mod-heavy fat skull 26.6  
 12 x 9 mm

Bacchus, 4400 ft., Salt Lake Co., Utah

Captured March 19, 1969; Died May 30, 1969

961 ♂ Rosy Finch - AT testes heavy fat skull 32.8  
 7 x 5 mm (banded B & T, R Lt)

962 ♀ Rosy Finch - AT ovary heavy fat skull 28.1  
 7 x 4 mm

Location unknown: Could be Nederland, Colo; Peavine Mtn, Nevada or Bodie, Calif!

Died in Berkeley May 21, 1970

963 ♀ Rosy Finch - T 1 fully formed egg skull 30.8  
 ova 11, 9, 6 mm (banded Yrt, Ylt in Rm T10)

Peavine Mtn, 1.7 mi. n. & 4.0 mi. w. of Reno, 5600 ft., Washoe Co., Nevada

Captured Feb. 16, 1969; Died in Berkeley May 21, 1970

964 ♂ Rosy Finch - L testes skull 24.0  
 8 x 6 mm (banded Yrt, Ylt in Rm T7)

Probably from Bodie, Mono Co., Calif. but could be from Colorado

1968-  
 captured: winter, 1969; Died in Berkeley June 6, 1970

965 ♀ Rosy Finch - T largest follicles brood patch skull 23.5  
 7 mm, 4 mm

one collapsed follicle.

(banded WW  
in T7, then T10)Colorado

(TR from cage T10)

Captured March 1969; Died in Berkeley May 30, 1970

966 ♀ Rosy Finch - T egg with shell in oviduct brood patch skull 25.2  
 8 mm ovum; 1 collapsed follicle



# Catalog

RE. Johnson  
1970

## Sargents Ridge, 9400 ft., Mt. Shasta, Siskiyou Co., Calif.

June 13, 1970

967	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 8x6mm	buccal sacs empty	crop 1/2 full	skull oz.	27.0 grams
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## 1.1 mi. n. of Gray Butte, 8200 ft., Mt. Shasta, Siskiyou Co., Calif.

June 13, 1970

968	♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 12x8mm	collapsed follicles	buccal sacs empty	skull oz	brood patch	24.5 grams
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## 0.05 mi. n. of Wheeler Pk, 12800 ft., White Pine Co., Nevada

June 25, 1970

969	♂	Rosy Finch - AT	testes 11x8mm	crop & buccal sacs empty	skull oz	22.5
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970	♀	Rosy Finch - AT	9x5mm ovary	largest ovum 5mm	buccal sacs empty	skull oz	no brood patch?	28.0
(mated to 969)								

971	♂	Rosy Finch - AT.	10x8mm testes		skull oz	24.0
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972	♀	Rosy Finch - AT	egg in uterus	largest ovum 7mm	skull oz	brood patch	—
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## cirque on west side of Mt. Audubon, 12000 ft., Boulder Co., Colorado

July 3, 1970

973	♂	Rosy Finch - Au	testes 11x8mm	mated to #974	skull oz	25.5
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974	♀	Rosy Finch - Au	ovary 11x11mm	largest ova 8mm, 6mm, 3mm	brood patch	skull oz	29.0
(mated to #973)							

975	♂	Rosy Finch - Au	testes 12x9mm	mated to #976	skull oz.	24.5
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976	♀	Rosy Finch - Au	ovary 6x4mm	largest ovum 1.5mm	brood patch	skull oz	28.5
(mated to #975)							





## Catalog

R.E. Johnson  
1970Cirque on west side of Mt. Audubon, 12000 ft., Boulder Co., Colorado

July 3, 1970

977	♂	Rosy Finch-Au	testes 12x7mm			skull oz.	25.0
978	♂	Rosy Finch-Au	testes 10x8mm	buccal sacs full		skull oz	28.0
979	♂	Rosy Finch-Au	testes 11x8mm			skull oz	24.5
980	♂	Rosy Finch-Au	testes 11x9mm			skull oz.	26.0
981	♀	Rosy Finch-Au	ovary 7x4mm	largest ovum 1.5mm	brood patch	skull oz	26.0
982	♂	Rosy Finch-Au	testes 11x7mm			skull oz	27.0

Mt. Audubon, 13223 ft., Boulder Co., Colorado (983-993 all from one flock).

July 3, 1970

983	♂	Rosy Finch-Au	testes 9x7mm			skull oz	28.0
984	♂	Rosy Finch-Au	12x8mm testes			skull oz	30.0
985	♂	Rosy Finch-Au	testes 11x7mm			skull oz	26.0
986	♂	Rosy Finch-Au	testes 10x7mm			skull oz	28.5
987	♂	Rosy Finch-Au	testes 12x7mm			skull oz	27.0
988	♂	Rosy Finch-Au	testes 9x6mm			skull oz	26.5



## Catalog

R.E. Johnson

MT. Audubon, 13,223 ft., Boulder Co., Colorado

July 3, 1970

989	♂	Rosy Finch - Au (bill deformity)	testes 9x6 mm	skull oz.	28.0
990	♂	Rosy Finch - Au	testes 11x7 mm	skull oz	25.0
991	♂	Rosy Finch - Au	testes too badly shot to measure	skull oz	28.5
992	♂	Rosy Finch - Au	testes 10x8 mm	skull oz	28.0
993	♂	Rosy Finch - Au	testes 12x7 mm	skull oz.	28.5

MT. Audubon, 13,223 ft., Boulder Co., Colorado (not part of above flock)

July 3, 1970

994	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 10x8 mm	skull oz	28.0		
995	♀	Rosy Finch	ovary 6x4 mm	largest ovum 1 mm	brood patch	skull oz	29.5
996	♀	Rosy Finch - Au	ovary 8x5 mm	largest ovum 1.5 mm	brood patch	skull oz	28.0

Rollins Pass, 11,671 ft., Boulder Co., Colorado

July 9, 1970

997	♂	Rosy Finch - Au	testes 11x8 mm	skull oz.	26.5
998	♂	Rosy Finch - Au	testes 9x6 mm	skull oz	26.0
999	♂	Rosy Finch - Au	testes 10x7 mm	skull oz	26.5



## Catalog

P.E. Johnson  
19700.4 mi. w. & 0.3 mi. n. of Lincoln Lake, 12500 ft., Clear Creek Co.,  
Colorado

8:30 AM July 13, 1970

1000	♂	Rosy Finch - Au	testes 9x7mm	buccal sacs full	skull oz	23.0
1001	♂	Rosy Finch - Au	testes 10x7mm	buccal sacs empty	skull oz	24.5
1002	♂	Rosy Finch - Au	testes 9x6mm	buccal sacs nearly empty	skull oz	25.5
1003	♂	Rosy Finch - Au	testes 11x7mm	buccal sacs full	skull oz	27.5

Summit Lake, 12830 ft., Clear Creek Co., Colorado

9:00 - 9:30 AM July 13, 1970

1004	♂	Rosy Finch - Au	testes 10x8mm	buccal sacs almost empty	skull oz	25.0
1005	♂	Rosy Finch - Au	12x8mm testes	buccal sacs empty	skull oz	25.5
(growth on upper bill & rt eye)						
1006	♂	Rosy Finch - Au	10x7mm testes	buccal sacs partly filled	skull oz	23.5
1007	♂	Rosy Finch - Au	testes 12x9mm		skull oz	24.0

10:10 AM July 13, 1970

1008	♂	Rosy Finch - Au	testes 12x7mm	buccal sacs empty	skull oz	26.0
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Summit Lake, 12830 ft., Clear Creek Co., Colorado

July 14, 1970

1009	♂	Rosy Finch - Au	testes 11x7mm	buccal sacs full	skull oz	27.5
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↑  
see next  
page

wt data may be in error (see next page under #1019)



## Catalog

R.E. Johnson

Summit Lake, 12830 ft., Clear Creek Co., Colorado

July 14, 1970

1010	♂	Rosy Finch - Au	testes 10x7mm	buccal sacs part full	skull oz	26.0
1011	♂	Rosy Finch - Au	testes 10x9mm	buccal sacs empty	skull oz.	26.5
1012	♂	Rosy Finch - Au	testes 11x8mm	buccal sacs empty	skull oz	26.5
1013	♂	Rosy Finch - Au	testes 12x7mm	"	skull oz	27.0
1014	♂	Rosy Finch - Au	testes 12x9mm	buccal sacs full	skull oz	24.5
1015	♀	Rosy Finch - Au	ovary 7x3mm	largest ovum 1mm	brood patch	skull oz. 24.5

0.7 mi. e. & 0.7 mi. n. of Summit Lake, 12700 ft., Clear Creek Co., Colorado

July 14, 1970

1016	♂	Rosy Finch - Au	testes 10x5mm	buccal sacs empty	skull oz	23.5
1017	♂	Rosy Finch - Au	testes 11x8mm	buccal sacs empty	skull oz	25.5

Mt. Evans, 14264 ft., Clear Creek Co., Colorado

July 13, 1970

1018	♂	Rosy Finch - Au	testes 10x6mm	buccal sacs empty	skull oz	23.0		
1019	♀	Rosy Finch - Au	ovary 7x6mm	largest ovum 1.5mm	buccal sacs full	brood patch	skull oz	21.0
(scale later found out of adjustment) wt. probably heavier								
1020	♂	Rosy Finch - Au	testes 9x7mm	buccal sacs full	skull oz	30.5		

(scale later found out of adjustment)  
wt. probably heavier

It seems safest to throw out all weights taken today prior to #1020. 1018 &amp; 1019 are definitely incorrect &amp; this is also true of an unknown number before that.





## Catalog

R.E. Johnson

Mt. Evans, 14 264 ft., Clear Creek Co., Colorado

July 13, 1970

1021	♂	Rosy Finch-Au	testes 10x8mm	buccal sacs empty	skull or	27.0
1022	♂	Rosy Finch-Au	testes 12x9mm	buccal sacs empty	skull or	27.5
1023	♂	Rosy Finch-Au	testes 9x6mm	"	skull or	26.5
1024	♂	Rosy Finch-Au	testes 10x7mm	"	skull or	28.5
1025	♂	Rosy Finch-Au	testes 7x6mm	"	skull or	26.5

0.3 mi. w. & 1.4 mi. s. of outlet of Leavitt Lake, 10160 ft., Tuolumne Co., California

Aug 15, 1970.

1026	Imma (sex ?)	Rosy Finch-D			skull unoss.	23.5
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0.4 mi. w. & 3.3 mi. s. of outlet of Leavitt Lake, 10800 ft., Tuolumne Co., California

Aug. 15, 1970

1027	Imma (sex ?)	Rosy Finch			skull unoss	24.0
1028	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 1x1mm		skull or	25.5

Isabel Glacier, 12,050 ft., Boulder Co., Colorado

Sept. 14, 1970

1029	Imma ♂	Rosy Finch-Au	testes 1x1mm	crop full of seeds	skull unoss.	30.0
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RE. Johnson

## Catalog

Peavine Mtn (so. slope), 4 mi. e. & 2.4 mi. n. of Reno, 5900 ft,  
Washoe Co., Nevada

Dec. 12, 1970

1030	♂	Rosy Finch-Litt.	1x1 mm testes	skull os.	25.5 grams
1031	♀	Rosy Finch-T	1x2 mm ovary	skull os	24.0 grams
1032	♀	Rosy Finch-T	2x2 mm ovary	skull os	24.5 grams
1033	♂	Rosy Finch-T	1x1 mm testes	skull os	26.5 grams

Jan 18, 1971

1034	♀	Rosy Finch-L	2x4 mm ovary	skull os	25.0
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1.2 mi. n. Tioga Pass, 9800 ft., ~~Mono~~ Mono Co., Calif.

June 12, 1971

1035	♀	Rosy Finch	largest ovum 1.5 mm 8x6 mm ovary	buccal sacs empty	skull os	24.5 grams
1036	♂	Rosy Finch	10x7 mm testes	buccal sacs empty	skull os	22.5 grams
1037	♀	Rosy Finch	1.5 mm largest ovum 11x4 mm testes	buccal sacs empty	skull os	23.5 grams
1038	♂	Rosy Finch	10x8 mm testes	buccal sacs empty	skull os	23.5 grams
1039	♀	Rosy Finch	largest ovum 2 mm 8x6 mm ovary	buccal sacs empty	skull os.	22.5 grams
1040	♀	Rosy Finch	2 mm - largest ovum 7x4 mm ovary	buccal sacs empty	skull os	23.0 grams



## Catalog

R.E. Johnson  
1971

9800ft.  
1.2 mi. n. Tioga Pass, Mono Co., Calif.

June 12, 1971

1041	♀	Rosy Finch	largest ovum 1mm 7x3mm ovary	buccal sacs empty	skull os	23.0
1042	♂	Rosy Finch	11x9mm testes	buccal sacs empty	skull os	25.0grams
1043	♀	Rosy Finch	largest ovum 2mm 7x4mm ovary	buccal sacs empty	skull os	25.0grams
1044	♂	Rosy Finch	10x7mm testes	buccal sacs empty	skull os	24.0grams
1045	♂	Rosy Finch	11x7mm testes	buccal sacs empty	skull os	23.0grams

Dana Plateau, 0.7mi. s. & 0.2 mi. e. Ellery Lake Dam, 11,400ft., Mono  
Co., Calif.

June 30, 1971

1046	♀	Rosy Finch	largest ova 7mm, 5mm 13x11mm ovary. egg (no shell) in uterus (Mated to 1047.)	buccal sacs empty	skull os	32grams
1047	♂	Rosy Finch	11x7mm testes	buccal sacs empty	skull os	23.5grams
1048	♂	Rosy Finch	10x7mm testes	buccal sacs empty	skull os	24.5grams
1049	♂	Rosy Finch	10x7mm testes	buccal sacs empty	skull os	25.5grams
1050	♂	Rosy Finch	9x6mm testes	buccal sacs empty	skull os	23.0grams
1051	♂	Rosy Finch	11x7mm testes	buccal sacs empty	skull os	24.0grams



## Catalog

R.E. Johnson  
1971Dana Plateau, 0.7 mi. s & 0.2 mi. e. Ellery Lake Dam, 11400 ft., Mono Co., California

June 30, 1971

1052	♂	Rosy Finch	10x7mm testes			buccal sacs empty	skull oz	22.5grams
1053	♂	Rosy Finch	11x8mm testes			buccal sacs empty	skull oz	24.0grams
1054	♂	Rosy Finch	11x9mm testes			buccal sacs empty	skull oz	24.0grams
1055	♂	Rosy Finch	10x7mm testes			buccal sacs empty	skull oz	25.5grams
1056	♂	Rosy Finch	10x8mm testes			buccal sacs empty	skull oz	25.5grams
1057	♂	Rosy Finch	11x7mm testes			buccal sacs empty	skull oz	25.0gram
1058	♀	Rosy Finch	7x5mm ovary (atretic follicles, i.e. post laying)	largest ovum 1mm	brood patch edematized	buccal sacs empty	skull oz	26.5grams
1059	♀	Rosy Finch	8x6mm ovary (atretic follicles, i.e. post laying)	largest ovum 1mm	brood patch edematized	buccal sacs empty	skull oz	25.5grams
1060	♀	Rosy Finch	6x6mm ovary  large fat pad in neck	largest ovum 1mm	brood patch edematized	buccal sacs empty	skull oz	25.0grams
1061	♂	Rosy Finch	9x6mm testes (atretic follicles, i.e. post laying)			buccal sacs empty	skull oz	26.5grams

Heart Lake, 10410 ft., Rock Creek, Inyo Co., California

July 16, 1971

1062	♀	Rosy Finch	7x4mm ovary	largest ovum 1mm	brood patch	buccal sacs empty	skull oz	23.0grams
1063	♀	Rosy Finch	5x3mm ovary	largest ovum 1mm	brood patch	buccal sacs empty	skull oz	24.5grams





## Catalog

Upper Morgan Lake, 10,900 ft., Inyo Co., Calif.

July 16, 1971  
 1064 ♀ Rosy Finch 7x3mm ovary largest ovum < 1mm brood patch buccal sacs full skull oz 24.0 grams

0.2 mi. s & 0.2 mi. e. of inlet of Gem Lake, 11,400 ft., Inyo Co., Calif.

July 16, 1971  
 1065 ♀ Rosy Finch 6x4mm ovary largest ovum < 1mm brood patch buccal sacs 99% empty skull oz. 26.0 grams

0.1 mi. e. of Dade Lake, 11,500 ft., Inyo Co., Calif.

July 16, 1971  
 1066 ♀ Rosy Finch 6x4mm ovary heavy fat largest ovum < 1mm brood patch buccal sacs 1/2 full skull oz 27.5 grams

Dade Lake, 11,600 ft., Inyo Co., Calif.

July 16, 1971  
 1067 ♂ Rosy Finch 8x5mm testes buccal sacs full skull oz 24.0 ~~24.0~~ grams  
 1068 ♀ Rosy Finch 6x4mm ovary largest ovum 1mm brood patches buccal sacs full skull oz 25.5 grams

Bighorn Lake, 10,800 ft., Mono Co., Calif.

Aug. 7, 1971  
 1069 ♀ Rosy Finch 4x3mm ovary largest ovum 1/2mm brood patch not fully edematized buccal sacs full skull oz 23.5 grams

White Mtn, 11600 ft., 2.4 mi. n. & 2.8 mi. w. of Tioga Pass, Mono Co., Calif.

Aug. 7, 1971  
 1070 ♀ Rosy Finch 3x2 ~~4x3~~mm ovary no ova brood patch fully edematized buccal sacs full skull oz. 23.5 grams



## Catalog

1.2 mi. n. & 0.4 mi. w. of Tioga Pass, 10,800 ft., Mono. Co., Calif.

May 13, 1972

1071	♂	Rosy Finch	6 x 4 mm testes	skull oz	buccal sacs empty	23.0 grams
1072	♀	Rosy Finch	no brood patch 1 mm ova 6 x 3 mm ovary	skull oz	buccal sacs empty	21.5 grams
1073	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 4 x 6 mm	skull oz	buccal sacs empty	23.0 grams

0.1 mi. s. & 0.1 mi. e. of Sonora Peak, 11,400 ft., Mono Co., Calif.

May 14, 1972

1074	♂	Rosy Finch	testes 3 x 3 mm	skull oz	buccal sacs empty	23.0 grams
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1.1 mi. w. & 0.7 mi. n. of Johnson, 2500 ft., Whitman Co., Washington

Sept. 30, 1972

72-17	1075	♂	Song Sparrow	testes (white) 1 x 1 mm	skull oz	low fat	24.4 grams
72-18	1076	♂	W.C. Sparrow	testes 1 x 1 mm (white)	<del>skull</del>	mod. fat	31.6 grams
72-19	1077	♂	Savannah Sparrow	testes 1 x 1 mm (white)	skull unos	low fat	20.8 grams
72-20	1078	♂	W.C. Sparrow	testes 1 x 1 mm (white)	skull unos.	low fat	26.8 grams
72-21	1079	♂	Savannah Sparrow	testes 1 x 1 mm (white)	skull oz	low fat	16.4 grams

~~Sept. 30~~ Oct. 3, 1972

4.0 mi. s. Viola, 2,800 ft., Latah Co., Idaho

Oct. 7, 1972

72-22	1080	♂	Oregon Junco	testes 1 x 1 mm	skull unos		16.0 gram.
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Johnson, R. E.

1969 (Part) - 1972

Journal

Nev.  
calif.  
colo.  
Canada  
Wash.  
Oregon



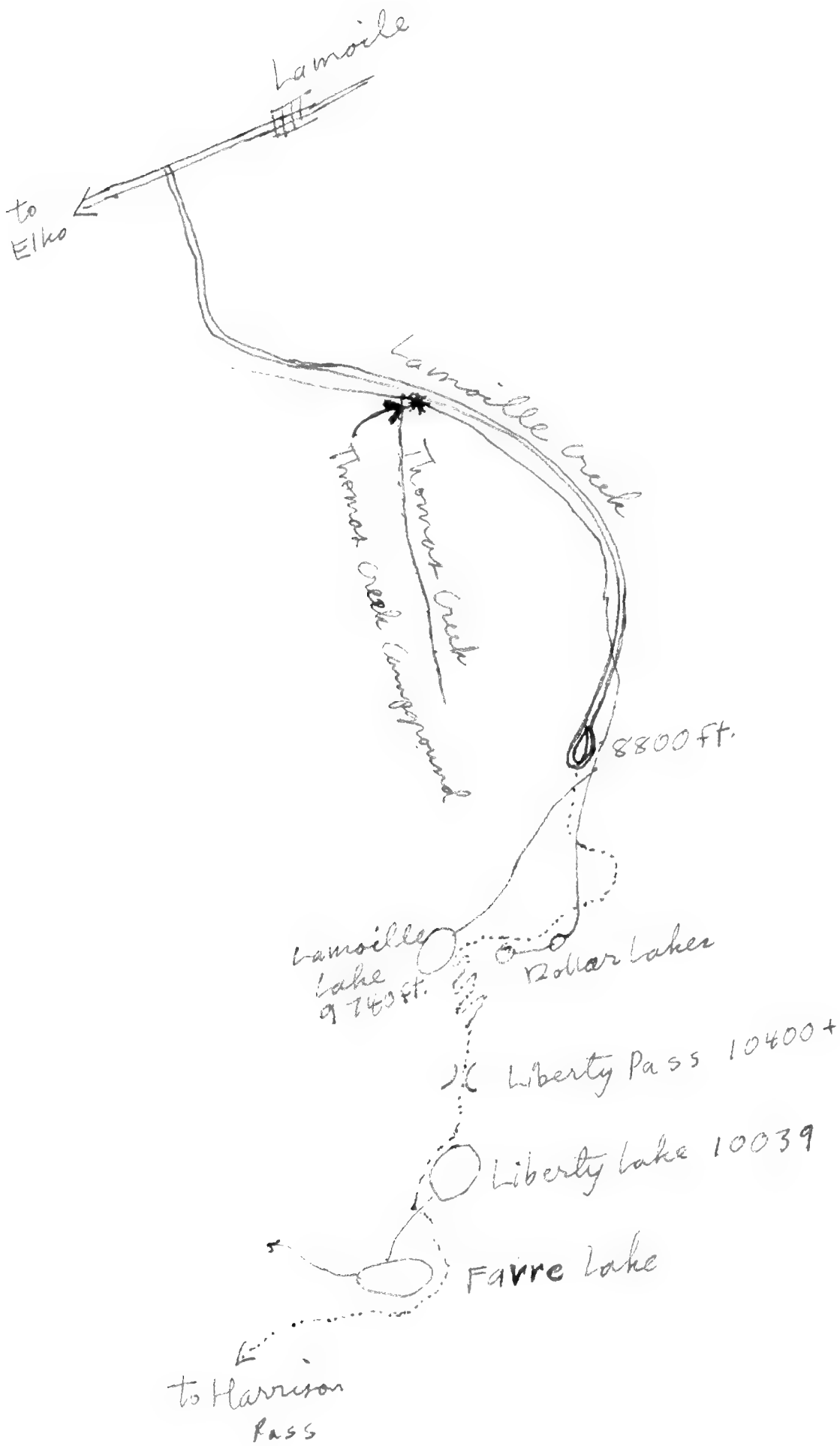
## Journal

R E Johnson  
1969Oct. 3-6 Ruby Mtns, Nevada

These notes are written 2 weeks after the trip & thus are sketchy & in summary form only. I drove from Berkeley to Sagehen Creek Friday (Oct. 3) evening. On Sat. morning Jenny Meux accompanied me from Sagehen on the trip across Nevada to Elko & se to Lamoille Canyon. We camped at Thomas Creek Campground, <sup>7600 ft.</sup> which is 8 miles up a dirt road from its jct with the road to Lamoille (town). There was about an inch of day old snow at the campground. The temp. went down to about  $20^{\circ}\text{F}$  overnight judging from the thickness of ice on puddles & etc. The next morning we drove the remaining 4 miles up canyon to roads end, <sup>8800 ft.</sup> and then hiked 3 miles to Liberty Pass (10400 + Ft.). Trail mileages at roads end were:

Lamoille Lake	2 miles
Liberty Pass	3
Liberty Lake	4
Favre Lake	5
Harrison Pass	43

The reason for the trip was to obtain a visual impression of the areas Ward Russell, <sup>& Ralph Raitt</sup> had collected Rosy Finches in mid-June 1956. He collected 6 on June 13, 1 on June 14 & 5 on June 21 at 9500 ft in Lamoille Canyon. He also collected 1 on





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

Oct. 3-6

Ruby Mtns, Nevada

June 17 & another on June 19 ~~in~~ Thomas Creek, 9000ft. Neither of these locations are above timberline. The mtns are rugged rocky & have little vegetation but are far from a stark mtn range. The creeks are sizable & cold & trees follow the valleys & up the canyon slopes. White Park Pine occupies the subalpine. Because of the precipitous nature of the country it is easy to see that Russell's collecting locations were only a short flight from nesting areas. The rise to over 11,000ft. Along the trail snow was drifted to at least a foot in depth in selected spots, thus little of the <sup>alpine</sup> vegetation near the pass was visible. A small mat Phlox & Geum rossii were present however. Gooseberries were ripe along the trail up. There was ice on the two Dollar Lakes just below Lamoille Lake. The only birds seen were the Red-shafted Flicker, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Mtn. Chickadee, Hairy Woodpecker, & Water Pipit. Coyotes & Chipmunks were also seen.

Sunday night we drove back to Elko & east to Wells & then south up to ~~the~~ Angel Lake on the north edge of the Ruby Mtns. Again the temps dropped well below freezing & ice formed over a portion of the lake near the dam. In the morning we returned to Sagehen Creek & then to Berkeley. No Rosy Finches were seen on the trip.



## Journal

R. E. Johnson  
1969Oct. 18-19 Berkeley, Calif. to Peavine Mtn, Nevada & return

Left Berkeley at 6:30 PM & drove Interstate 80 to Reno & then up the dirt road to the lower vertical mine shaft on Peavine Mtn. A thorough search of the shaft by strong light revealed no rosy finches and none were flushed by rocks. There was no snow at this level on the mountain. Someone had thrown garbage down the shaft.

Next I drove around the mtn & up the road to the summit to the upper vertical mine shaft. There was ~~was~~ one to two inches of wind blown snow around the shaft on the level. I located one Littoralis roosting in a crypt in the wall of the shaft 25 ft down (binoculars + light used). No other birds were seen. Part of the shaft is of course not visible from above so others could still have been present, but none were anywhere near the one seen.

My alarm clock stopped before morning so I missed the early rays of the sun. I awoke at 7 AM when the sun was still below the horizon but the sky was light to the east over Reno. The sun appeared at 7:15 AM. Meanwhile, <sup>7:05 AM</sup> I had rushed to the shaft where I scared 2 Rosy Finches from the shaft. They must have been perched just inside the rim because they quickly took flight & headed NW low over the ground just as I reached the shaft & before I could focus my eyes on what was going on. I remained near the



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969Oct. 18-19 Berkeley, Calif. to Peavine Mtn, Nevada & return

shaft for another hour & no other birds appeared. The weather was well below freezing & windy. The Sierras had had upwards to a foot of snow in the past week & the weather cleared yesterday evening just ahead of me as I drove up. It is now clear.

I drove north to Halleluja Jet, then west over Beckwourth Pass to Vinton, south to Logansport & Sierraville, then south to Sagehen Creek & Truckee & back to Berkeley. Between Vinton & Sierraville the following birds were noted: English Sparrow, Starling, Sparrow Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Marsh Hawk, Feruginous Hawk(?), Black-billed Magpie, Crow, Meadow-lark, Mtn. Bluebird, & Western Bluebird.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969Nov. 23 Berkeley, Calif to Peavine Mtn, Nevada to Bodie Calif.

Left Berkeley shortly after 1 PM & arrived in Reno at 4:30 PM. There was only light snow (1 ft or less) in the vicinity of Donner Pass, however the Boreal Ridge ski lift was in operation. Air temperatures were cold & puddles etc were frozen. There is no snow ~~is~~ visible on Peavine Mtn as viewed from Reno & no snow around the lower shaft which I visited at 4:40 - 5:25 PM. Sunset was prior to my arrival at the shaft but the sky is still light at 5:25 PM. On my last visit to the lower shaft (Oct. 18) I noted that trash had been thrown down the shaft. Since then someone has put up a <sup>low</sup> barbed wire fence around this shaft & the smaller one up the hill to the southeast. Then someone else has removed part of the fence on the main hole & all of the fence around the smaller & thrown them down the hole. Also someone has shoveled into the lip of the main hole in several places. One wonders if Ross Finches are apt to return to a hole so frequently disturbed. None are in the shaft at this time, but this may relate to weather & feeding conditions & not to disturbance. Ground level temp at 5:25 PM at lower shaft is  $-5^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

I arrived at the upper mine shaft at 6:30 PM, well after dark. Shortly after I began a systematic search of the





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

Nov. 23 Berkeley, Calif. to Peavine Mtn., Nevada to Bodie, Calif  
 walls of the shaft (beginning at the top), a flock of <sup>30</sup> chirping rosy finches flew up from somewhere below the 20 ft. level. Others were spotted 20 ft & lower, roosting on crevices of the walls. Both Littoralis & Tephrocotis head patterns were noted. Occasionally one to four more would fly out at a time in response to disturbance by my light or a rock. All birds flew to the east but that was likely because I stood on the west lip. I could not tell if they continued east or not. Between 40 & 50 birds flew from the shaft, one or two remained in view below when I left. Three or four birds circled the shaft once as if to reenter or to examine the cause of the disturbance. The rest flew away more directly. There is no snow on the level about the top of the shaft but there are small patches  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep in the lee of many of the sage plants. Also there are a few thin patches of snow a short ways down into the shaft. One gets the impression that most of the birds were not "asleep" & flew at the first disturbance. A few seemed difficult to arouse & could have been in torpor. The majority could not have been in torpor. Under colder TA conditions & solid snow cover, the birds have been harder to displace from the shafts & would return almost immediately to it. Perhaps



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

Nov. 23 Berkeley, Calif, to Peavine Mtn., Nevada to Bodie, Calif

therefore when energy stresses are greatest, they are hardest to displace. The TA at ground level at 7:10 PM was below  $0^{\circ}\text{C}$  on a thermometer not calibrated below that temp. However I'm fairly certain it was not far below freezing. When I checked the temp I also noted one bird visible in the shaft that may have returned to it since I walked away. I also heard another circling & chirping so perhaps some will return to the shaft tonight. There is a slight breeze from the NW. The moon is nearly Full & it is clear & light out. Perhaps the bright moon keeps the birds closer to arousal?

Drove north to Lassen Co. & tried to locate the road into the mine shafts east of Hallelujah Jct. Tried several roads & one of them must have been the correct one but couldn't be sure since I could see mine dumps from a distance at night. All the roads were badly washed out.

Drove south through Bridgeport to Bodie & up to one of the shafts I caught birds at a year ago. Two Rose Finches flew out as soon as I put the light down the hole. I placed a mist net over the shaft. Four birds were eventually scared out, 2 escaping the net after some



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969Nov. 23 Berkeley, Calif to Peavine Mtn, Nevada to Bodie, Calif.

struggle & two being caught (both Tephrocotis head patterns & yellow bills (except for a darkening at the bill tip). One of those that escaped was a littoralis. The air temp<sup>at 1:30 AM</sup> is again below freezing but not far below. I feel warm out. No wind. Bright moon. Clear. No snow anywhere around Bodie but the Sierra look solid white. The local streams are still gurgling but with a thick layer of ice over the top.

Nov. 24 Bodie to Mammoth Lakes, Calif

Awoke at 6:20 AM & heard rosy finches passing by in a flock. It was quite light in the east. Walked to the large shaft on top the hill ne of town where I'd mist netted rosy finches last year and watched the remaining birds leave the hole. A flock of 30 chirped from deep within the shaft for 3 minutes before appearing near the surface, where they sat or hopped about for another minute before suddenly taking flight. Subsequently 4 left & then one before sunrise at 6:50 AM. One bird left at 6:55 AM & that appeared to be the last one. All the birds flew east when leaving the mine & this not in response to my presence. Rosy Finches flew over quite often & not necessarily heading east.

Conies & chipmunks common in the rocks.

Saw two Water Pipits beside a spring 100 yds ne of Bodie Campground & collected one. Just prior to this



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

Nov. 24 Bodie to Mammoth Lakes, Calif.

I saw 10 small looking Mule Deer. Browse in this area is mostly Artemisia with a very small amount of Bitterbrush. Also some Chrysothamnus.

Drove down Cottonwood Canyon toward Mono Lake. The road descends from sagebrush at Bodie through Piñon Pine-Sage in the canyon to sage again on the flats near Mono Lake. A Red-shafted Flicker was seen on a power pole above the piñon area & another in the piñon forest. <sup>& one Stellar Jay was seen.</sup> Oregon Juncos were common in the forest. A Sage Sparrow was collected from among 5 near Mono Lake. (Earlier I saw a flock of about 10 Horned Larks on Geiger Grade west out of Bodie).

Drove to Lee Vining for gas, then up Lundy Canyon past the head of the lake. Oregon Juncos were seen at various points along the road above the lake & at the lodge at the upper end. A Sparrow Hawk was seen in the piñon belt below the canyon.

Drove Calif. 167 (paved) along the north side of Mono Lake to Hawthorne & then south on US 95 to Mina, then backtracked to Hawthorne to Mono Lake & turned off up the Cottonwood Canyon Rd to Bodie.

Saw a Sparrow Hawk & a Immature Red-tailed Hawk no. of Mono Lake over Rabbitbrush Flats. Saw a flock of 20 Lawrence's Goldfinches feeding beside the road on the south outskirts of Hawthorne. Starlings & English Sparrows were common in Mina. A Loggerhead Shrike was collected from a power cable in Cottonwood





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

Nov. 24

Bodie to Mammoth Lakes, Calif

Canyon.

I returned to the mine shafts I visited this morning, but unfortunately I arrived much too late to determine what time the birds arrived back at the shaft. Birds were already present at both shafts at 4:20 PM. I disturbed the lower hole & a total of about 8 birds flew out. ~~Various~~ ~~These~~ Two were collected - both tephrocotis head pattern. Again a littoralis was seen and on the same perch as last night. Disturbance to the upper larger hole eventually brought 25 birds out, a few at a time. There were probably more present. No attempt was made to remove them all. One was collected (tephrocotis head pattern). These birds (Bodie) are much harder to flush from the shafts & more anxious to return than those on Peavine Mtn. Yet they are much less compelled to return than a year ago at this time or on Peavine Mtn on other occasions when snow was present. It appears that cold weather, wind, & snow ~~cause the birds to~~ are correlated with a strong tendency to stay in the shaft or to return if almost forcibly removed.

The sun was down by 5 PM (forgot to note time exactly) & by 5:30 PM things were dark enough that I could <sup>not</sup> see birds on the ground in order to shoot. The moon didn't appear until just after I left, or about 6:50 PM.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

Nov. 24

Boodie to Mammoth Lakes, Calif.

Heard on the radio that it was  $16^{\circ}\text{F}$  last night in Fallon. Boodie would normally be colder than Fallon. However it didn't feel that cold to me. The creek in Boodie canyon refroze last night putting on  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches of ice after I broke it all up driving through at midnight.

I drove back to Leavenworth & south to Mammoth Lakes to camp in the snow in an empty campground at Twin Lakes (upper lake 80% frozen over).

Nov. 25

Mammoth Lakes to Pomona, Calif.

The ice on Twin Lakes is thick enough to walk on with security. The car had difficulty starting this AM. It also felt colder last night. I heard Mtn. Chickadees in the Lodgepole Pines around camp & saw one Pine Squirrel. There were 30 (exact count) Coots in the open water of Twin Lakes. Drove up to Mary & Mamie Lakes. There were even more Coots in Mary than in Twin Lakes. It was too snowy to drive on to Horseshoe Lake.

Drove on to Bishop where I saw Black-billed Magpies, Ravens, Quail (sp? - 8± flew across road at inconvenient moment), Brewer's Blackbirds & English Sparrows. Turned ne on US 6 over Montgomery Pass (7167 ft.) to jct with Nevada Hwy 3A, then south on 3A through Fish Lake Valley to jct with road going west over Westgard Pass (7271 ft.)



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

Nov. 25

Mammoth Lakes to Pomona, Calif.

to Big Pine. Along this route I noted 2 Prairie Falcons in Challant Valley sitting on telephone posts which took flight when I stopped to observe them. Also saw a Sparrow Hawk and several Starlings.

Along Fish Lake Road I saw Starlings, Horned Larks in flocks of 50-100, Sparrow Hawks, Black-billed Magpies, Loggerhead Shrikes & W.C. Sparrows. Just north of Dyer I stopped at the Bar Double Nine Ranch and saw a flock of 50 Horned Larks, a Snipe, Starlings, a Mourning Dove, White-crowned Sparrows, a Marsh Hawk, Black-billed Magpies, & English Sparrows. In a small shallow reservoir at Oasis I saw 5 Killdeer, a Linnet, & several Horned Larks.

Streams flowing from the White Mtns were amazingly full, reaching the ~~the~~ highway in midvalley as rushing brooks. There was no snow in Fish Lake Valley but there was ice beside the streams.

I drove west through Deep Springs Valley, where I stopped to visit the college, and over Westgard Pass to Big Pine, then south on US 395 to San Bernardino. I arrived in Pomona at 8:30 pm. I spent the next few days in the LA area & returned to Berkeley on Dec. 1.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

Dec. 11

Berkeley Aquatic Park, Berkeley, Calif.

Common Goldeneye -  $\sigma/\phi$  ratio is around  $\frac{1}{8}$ ;  $100 \pm$  birds

Scaup sp. -  $100 \pm$  birds.

Redhead - 30 birds

Pintail - 20 birds, mostly in smaller lake to south

Red-breasted Merganser -  $10 \phi$

Bufflehead -  $10 \pm$  both sexes

Ruddy Duck -  $3 \sigma$ ,  $8 \phi$

Mallard - 1 pair

Pied-billed Grebe - 5

Eared Grebe - 1 winter plumage

Snowy Egret - 6

American Egret - 1

Black-crowned Night Heron - 1 Imm

Coot - 36

Arclet -  $10 \pm$

Bonaparte Gull - 3

Calif. Gull -  $20 \pm$

Mourning Dove - 1

English Sparrow - 2

Brown Towhee - 2

^ Baldpate - 3 ( $2 \sigma$ ,  $1 \phi$ )

Observed from 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM. Had rained lightly last night. Now still overcast & ready to rain. Cool 10-15 mph wind from south.





## Journal

R. E. Johnson  
1969

Dec. 16

Berkeley Aquatic Park, Berkeley, Calif

Overcast, cool day. Rain predicted but none forthcoming. This being Tuesday I expected no boats on the lake but saw one being pulled from the water 3:45 PM when I arrived. I remained until 5 PM. The main lake had fewer ducks than on Dec. 11, perhaps due to the presence of a boat. The 2 smaller ponds had as many or more than on Dec. 11. In addition to those birds seen on Dec. 11, there were about 70 shore birds along the mud flats just north of the SW corner of the lake. The water was not low & almost no mud was exposed but the water was shallow enough for Least Sandpipers, etc.

## Birds at main lake:

Pied-billed Grebe	6
Eared Grebe	- 2
Amer. Goldeneye	1 ♀
Ruddy Duck	1 ♂
Pintail	1 ♂
Coot	45 ±
Avocet	11
Willet	3
Killdeer	2
Dunlin	20 ±
Least Sandpipers	30-40
Sanderling	4
Calif. Gull	- 10 ±



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1969

Dec. 16

Berkeley Aquatic Park, Berkeley, Calif.

Calif. Gull

1st pond to south:

Scaup 6 ♂ &amp; several ♀

Common Goldeneye 30 ♀, 5 ♂

Bufflehead 10 ♂, 14 ♀

Ruddy Duck 3 ♀

Coot 30

Pied-billed Grebe 1

2nd pond:

Amer. Egret 1

Snowy Egret 7

Black-crowned Night Heron 1 (adult plumage)

Pied-billed Grebe - 2

Mallard 1 ♀

Pintail 30

Wigeon (Amer). 2 ♂, 1 ♀

Ruddy Duck 5 ♀

Amer. Goldeneye 1 ♀

Red-breasted Merganser 3 ♀

Coot 10

Greater Yellowlegs 1

Along shore:

Brown Towhee 1

W.C. Sparrow 5

Mourning Dove. 1

Starling - dead, under tree



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970

Jan 23

Berkeley, Calif. to Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co., Nevada

Left Berkeley at approx 5 PM as a new storm front was hitting the area. Storm warnings are up along the coast. Heavy rain is expected. Winds up to 120 mph were recorded on MT. Tamalpais by 8 PM (radio). I encountered rain & wind all the way to Reno except for about 5 miles of snow in a small area around Boreal Ridge, where snow fell & accumulated to 5 inches ~~on~~ the highway. Chains were required over this short stretch. On lower Peavine Mtn it was ~~pouring~~ raining hard but probably had not been for long because little dirt road rutting had occurred & it ~~was~~ much accelerated an hour later with increased runoff. The ground was getting soft & I spent 30 minutes digging the car out of the mud on one occasion. I hiked to the lower Peavine shaft & found that a little sleet was falling amid the rain & that none remained on the level ground surface but some stuck inside the shaft on the vertical walls. Three rosy finches quickly flew up the shaft & ~~was~~ landed just inside the top after I shined my light in. Fogged glasses prevented me from identifying them. There may have been other birds in the shaft but not a large flock of 100 like in times past under colder conditions. What was most impressive was how quickly they flew up at this hour (11 PM). They obviously weren't in torpor nor



R.E. Johnson  
1970

# Journal

Jan. 23

Berkeley, Calif. to Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co., Nevada

displaying the strong affinity for the shaft seen at colder times. Also notable was that some birds use the shaft during hard rain. But the rain may not have been falling when they entered. The hard rain I am experiencing certainly began several hours after their arrival. Weather: heavy rain; wet ground; standing water in foot prints, etc; minimum overnight temp  $29^{\circ}\text{F}$ ; No snow on the ground.

I tried to drive up to upper Peavine but less than halfway up I ran into heavy snow (falling & on the road) and couldn't drive all the way.

Jan. 24 Peavine Mtn

Snow fell during the night and 1 to 2 inches stands on the ground at 7AM <sup>at the bulldozed area near lower Peavine.</sup> Low overnight temp ~~was~~  $29^{\circ}\text{C}$  except that snow accumulated around the max-min. thermometer & may have prevented the true low reading (at ground level). Wind blowing hard & occasionally carrying new snow. Sun started coming through off & on at 9AM & warmed the snow on the car & elsewhere creating slush. Skies are 100% cloudy & moderately dark to the north & west. To the se patches of nearly blue sky are imaginable. Ground <sup>level</sup> temp at 10:30AM is  $38^{\circ}\text{F}$ . A motor cyclist appeared at 9AM and continued to buzz the area into the afternoon. There were no rose finches at the lower shaft at 11AM. The ground was uniformly covered with 1-2 inches of snow. Temp at 1 inch above ground was  $32^{\circ}\text{F}$ . I noted that a large





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970

Jan 24 Peavine Mtn

object I had mistaken for a row boat last night, was wedged near the bottom of the shaft. Turns out is broader ~~than~~ a row boat & square ended. This is a new addition since my last visit.

I hiked over to the fence line & up the road bordering its east side to the vertical mine shaft I first noted on March 11, 1968. No rosy finches at midday but it looks like a good roost spot so I'll climb up to it again after dark. I continued on up the road beyond this & beyond where I had been on March 11, 68 to a spot above the "cliffs" with "caves" I mentioned then. I stood on top these rocks (only 20+ ft tall) & surveyed the area to the east. Finches might use these rocks but they probably provide less shelter than the mines. Further n or nw I could see the fence turn at right angles & head east or ne. Returning toward the vertical shaft I saw a Rosy Finch <sup>at 12 noon</sup> fly west about 20 ft overhead & ahead of me. No birds were at the shaft ~~nor~~ at the lower Peavine shaft when I reached it again at 12:30 PM. Temp was then 34°F. The sun had been shining quite a bit by then and no snow remained on the mine dump proper though the surrounding hillsides still retain an inch of snow. Some SW facing slopes are melting fast & are nearly bare of snow & are crossed by small muddy rivelets. Wind has been strong from the west. At times I could lean 30° into it from the vertical & find complete support.

Returned to the car for lunch at 1 PM. Only scattered



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970Jan 24 Peavine Mtn., Washoe Co., Nevada

patches of snow remain in the bulldozed area. Lower S facing sagebrush hills have also melted off completely. A cyclist seems determined to distract my attention by circling me. One more revolution & I'll fill his pants with buckshot. He's seems to have gotten the message, but is now replaced by a small VW bug doing about the same thing. Overhead the skies are now largely blue, the storm being to the west. However there are some sizeable black bottomed cumulus clouds over Reno & extending southward. Blue skies predominate to the east of that.

at 2:30 PM I arrived back at the lower Peavine mineshaft & saw one rosy finch dive over the lip of the shaft after approaching low over the ground from the NE. When I looked into the shaft I located 2 Rosy finches 30-40 ft down. Both were perched with heads out of sight to me. However a loose rock fell & hit the "non-rowboat" making considerable noise & both birds flew. One landed closer to the top of the shaft where I could examine it clearly. It was a littoralis, neither cheek being of the campestris type. I did not see where the other bird flew to. One bird flew in at 2:40 PM while I stood on the edge of the shaft & it may have been that second bird. At 2:48 PM 5 rosy finches fluttered slowly down from the sky into the shaft. One entered via the side hole. They appeared to come from behind me to the south. at 2:52 PM one rosy finch came from the NE low over the ground & dove into the shaft.



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at 2:56 PM 8 more arrived from the south & dropped down rapidly (not dive however) into the shaft.

at 3:03 PM 20 rosy finches came downhill from the nnw & dove in & out of the shaft & continued south close to the ground. It appears that some (5-8) of the group stayed in the shaft and the group that flew on was smaller than the one that arrived.

at 3:07 PM 8 flew out & sw, then back over the hole & ne low to the ground.

at 3:16 PM approx. 15 entered from the e flying low. Some entered via the side hole. These may have been some of those that flew out at 3:03 PM. I think I've been hearing rosy finches chirping from that direction for several minutes.

at 3:18 PM seven exit & fly west low.

at 3:25 PM 15 flew over going ene & appeared to settle e of the hole (down the hill). They chirped (the high pitched winter note, not hoarse) as they went over the shaft.

at 3:29 PM a motorcyclist rode up the fence row road a short ways. Fortunately it began to snow a bit & encouraged him to leave the whole area. The sky was rapidly clouding over again and the strong wind began to subside thereafter.

at 3:44 PM Two rosy finches entered from the nne. The sun shown off and on as the clouds passed



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# Journal

Jan. 24 Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co., Nevada

over. The wind continued gustily, though not averaging as hard as earlier.

4:22 PM last direct sunlight disappears as sun goes below dark cloud blanket over Sierras.

Snow cover at the shaft at 3-5 PM was 15%.

Temps since I arrived: 2:30 PM 32° F

4:00 PM 36°

5:00 PM 32°

I left at 5:10 PM. No birds had entered since 3:44 PM. I looked down the shaft before leaving & could see 4 or 5 birds far down the shaft without aid of flash light but I couldn't see them well enough to identify them. Earlier I saw a Black-tailed Jackrabbit near the shaft.

I hiked over to the fence & up to the shaft I visited earlier today. There were no birds in it (5:30 PM). Then I dropped down into the canyon to the east following down the side tributary to the main stream & then up to the 3 shafts <sup>together</sup> (I cared in) that I saw <sup>at 6 PM</sup> on March 11, 1968. Both open shafts contained, <sup>at 6 PM</sup> rosy finches and some flew out in response to my flash light. I held it for a minute at the 2nd shaft & 35 rosy finches flew out. Several others remained in full view within the shaft & probably many others remained lower in the shaft (based on previous experience). Thus I would think it safe to say 100+ rosy finches were using the 2 shafts, which is considerably more than at the lower Peavine shaft. Those few (3 or 4) that I saw well were





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1970Jan. 24 Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co., Nevada

littoralis.. This is the only shaft other than the upper & lower Peavine shafts that I have found rosy finches in. My previous visit to this shaft had been too early in the day as well as too late in the season. By 6 PM when I left the shaft it was fully dark but due to the light snow cover I could see well enough to walk without stumbling down the creek to join the dirt road & return to the car.

Jan. 25 Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co., Nevada

up early & to the <sup>lower</sup> shaft by 6:20 AM. The sky was clear. No wind. Three quarter moon in west sky gives considerable light. If rosy finches arrive in the morning in response to the light from the early morning sun, it's a wonder that a bright moon doesn't bring the same result. The birds exited at Bodie about a hour before the sun appeared & while the sky was pretty dark. Perhaps there is a difference in the quality of light from the moon & the sun that makes the difference. ~~Or~~ perhaps the birds respond to an internal clock. The max-min thermometer indicates a low of 25°F last night & it is still that temperature. The earth is frozen & crunches where it was very soft & wet last night. Saddles are frozen but not thickly. There is slight redding in the eastern sky.

At 6:38 AM a rosy finch chirp was heard from somewhere ne of the shaft.



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Jan. 25 Pearline Mtn., Washoe Co., Nevada

At 6:50 AM occasional chirps came from the shaft.

At 6:55 AM The first bird was seen inside the north lip of the shaft as if coming up to look to be sure the sky was really reddening in the se.

At 6:58 AM 35 rosy finches suddenly burst from the shaft chirping the high winter chirp & flew sw before circling higher & flying off to the ne. By now the sky was very bright.

At 7:08 AM eight sleepy heads flew out heading ese & a late ~~comer~~ followed but then turned back & flew alone to the west chirping.

At 7:20 AM I checked the shaft & no birds remained.

Occasional chirps of rosy finches were heard in various directions. The temp was now  $22^{\circ}\text{F}$ , lower than when I arrived! Later I heard on the radio that last night's low was  $27^{\circ}\text{F}$  in Reno & predicted  $28^{\circ}\text{F}$  tonight. There may be more snow tomorrow afternoon.

I went back to the car & drove toward Reno but turned left across the dam (dirt) & up Pearline Mtn again switchbacking up onto its more level easternmost plateau where I could see west to some of the places I'd been and now to the big shafts John Spencer had taken me to a couple yrs ago. ~~also heard~~ Horned larks. The road is only passable early in the day while the muddy surface is frozen so I had to return down again quickly.

Next I drove north on US 395 to Kalthelajah Jct & west ~~and~~ to Beekworth Pass and then off to the left (north) on a dirt road to a mine I'd visited once in 1958. I just wanted to relocate it in



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R.E. Johnson  
1970

Jan. 25

Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co., Nevada.

daylight so I can check it ~~at~~ tonight for rosy finches. Then I returned to the Jct & south to locate the correct route to the "Chats" mines that I couldn't locate at night on Nov. 23. I had visited the mines on March 12 and 19-20, 1958 & found 2 converging roads leading to them. I found both of these routes today & they turned out to be the same ones I tried on Nov 23. On the 23rd they were rough & washed out & I gave up because I had no assurance they were the correct roads anyway. Today they are even worse due to the recent rain & resulting wash outs. So I didn't go all the way to the mines but did confirm the route at least. I think I can follow the 2 mi (approx) route tonight. The 1st road is 1.8 miles so. of Hallelujah Jct, the 2nd is 3.2 miles south of the Jct.

Drove back to bulldozed area below lower Peavine by noon. The wind is beginning to blow again (was still all day) & scattered clouds are passing over from the west. People are out walking their dogs, hunting jackrabbits, & testing their cycles, jeeps, & dune buggies on the steep muddy roads. I went to the shaft at 1 PM so as not to miss any early arrivals today. At least 2 birds arrived before I did (2:30 PM) yesterday. The number I saw exit this morning was also slightly more than I estimate as entering. Today it appears more people than birds may visit the shaft. I met 2 boys with rifles, one father, son & dog with rifle & 3 fellows in a dune buggy in the first half hour!

at 2:48 suddenly 40 Rosy Finches dropped out of the sky in the ne



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chirping & entered both entrances. They were so high as not to be visible.

2:49 PM - 2 more arrived in the same manner as above.

2:50 PM - 5 leave to SW

2:51 - 1 returns from SW

2:54 11 arrive from S or SW, chirping.

2:57 1 arrives from W, is quiet, enters side entrance, flying low.

3:00 Temp 42°F (high for day was 43°F).

3:04 2 song finches fly out then back in as if to investigate me following my check of the thermometer located 30 ft away from where I am watching from.

3:08 3 arrive from NE; no chirping. Flying fairly low. Two of these fly past & return.

3:25 Antelope Ground Squirrel approaches main shaft from S & enters! I examined the area & can't figure where he went. Meanwhile:

3:28 one song finch flies over chirping, I move off & it goes in. Sun still bright, occasional cloud passes over but so far no obstruction of sunlight. Wind off & on.

3:36 3 enter from NE.

3:38 PM 1st interruption of sunlight by clouds.

4:00 PM 40°F

constant jeep & cycle traffic noise on the fence line road hasn't aroused song finches this afternoon.

4:05 PM 2 enter from S., flying high.





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1970Jan 25 Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co., Nevada

Snow covers 40% on ns facing slope leading down toward shaft and 0% on south facing slope.

4:48 PM 1 rosy finch enters side entrance but may(?) have come out of main hole. In any event he came from west over the main hole.

4:40 - 4:50 coyotes heard to west.

4:53 Sun dips behind Sierras (no clouds over sierras).  
The last direct sunlight leaves shaft entrance.

5:00 34°F. I leave shaft. Saw a Prairie Falcon (sp?) perched on a small pine tree top on ~~the~~<sup>my</sup> way to the car.

I hiked down Peavine Creek & explored some old mine dumps on the ne slopes above the creek & opposite the bulldozed area. The first one is above a lone large Ponderosa Pine tree which stands on the ne bank of the creek. This mine has a vertical shaft & looks good for rosy finches but has none. Perhaps its too close to all the people & their noise, but at least it is never visited (no road) like the lower Peavine shaft. Perhaps its too shallow. It is perhaps 25 ft deep. The shafts at Bodie & here that have had rosy finches are all deeper. Those lacking them have been less deep. The next several mine dumps down canyon have no vertical shafts.

Next I drove to Reno & up US 395 & up the Peavine Mtn Rd again, hoping the snow had largely melted. That was wishful thinking. I hiked several miles over snow drifted up to 4 ft deep. Skidoos had packed down much of it making walking easier. The sky was clear & starry.



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Jan 25 Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co., Nevada

The upper Peavine shaft is snowed shut, yet the ~~rocky~~ rocky perimeter is blown free of snow. Since the storm came on so suddenly & deposited all the snow in  $24 \pm$  hrs, I wonder if rosy finches could have been trapped in the shaft while roosting. This could be quite a one shot mortality factor. I've seen this shaft snowed shut before.

Next drove to Beckevourth Pass & examined the mine near there. Turns out its now full of water to within 3 ft of surface! No rosy finches. Skipped "Chats" mine. Its too late. I'd never get up at 6 AM tomorrow.

Drove back to lower Peavine area & cooked a late dinner, getting to bed at 11:30 PM. Seems warmer tonight than last night.

Jan. 26 Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co., Nevada

Was overcast this morning at 4 AM and clouds continued throughout early morning. Arrived at shaft at 6:36 AM and saw, <sup>& heard</sup> a rosy finch leave the shaft & fly east. Much darker this morning due to clouds blocking the moon & the sunrise. I would never see a rosy finch if it didn't chirp to help me locate its shadowy form.

6:36-37 AM . 1 rosy finch flying around chirping. I never saw it nor do I know if it came out of the shaft at 6:36 or if it is the previous bird returning to awake its friends.

6:46 AM Flock of 20 fly, <sup>from shaft</sup> east, then west, then new. Chirping beginning in shaft & reaching a peak as they burst from



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1970Jan. 26 Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co., Nevada

the shaft.

6:50 AM one song finche leaves shaft &amp; flies se.

6:52 one ~~bird~~ flies up & lands just inside lip (no. side).

6:54 20 fly from shaft chirping as described earlier &amp; fly w, then nw - chirping into the distance.

These were the first birds I could see clearly. It's finally getting light in spite of the clouds. Still it is not as light as it was yesterday when (6:58 AM) 35 birds left the shaft.

7:04 AM one leaves mine &amp; flies w or sw.

7:15 AM 30°F; low last night was 27°F. The ground this morning had a thin crunchy layer but was soft beneath. It froze deeper yesterday.

7:21 AM Checked shaft, no birds remain. I leave.

Drove toward Reno a short ways ~~east~~ to a point just east of the bulldozed area and parked where a side road heads to the left. This road branches twice. One goes back to the left up Peavine Creek, another goes farther east to join the road I followed yesterday morning after it crosses the dam. The central one continues more or less north <sup>above</sup> ~~of~~ a large side branch of Peavine Creek that penetrates deep into the mtn. and eventually goes just below the large shafts. John Spencer took me to via a cross country route <sup>in the afternoon</sup> on March 10, 1968. Explored these again & found what appeared to be bird droppings on some crypts in the vertical walls of one deep shaft & one only 20 ft deep.



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R.E. Johnson  
1970Jan. 26 Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co., Nevada

I hope to return to these this evening. The droppings look like those seen in the lower Peavine shaft.

Downcanyon & explored all mine workings seen including many up a side road (left). None had vertical shafts extending over a few feet down (usually caved in vertical shafts). So the only shafts offering possible roost sites were on top the ridge at the big mine dumps as mentioned above. It only took 20 minutes to walk from these vertical shafts back to the car (not rushing) so this isn't too extended a trip after dark. Road all the way except the final talus slope.

Part way up this canyon where 2 streams meet are an abundance of streamside bushes. There I saw 30 Oregon Juncos, 1 Bewick Wren, & 1 W.C. Sparrow.

ate lunch while drying socks & inside of boots in sun (quite warm) & wind. However after 12 noon clouds continued to blow over all afternoon from the west accompanied by a strong wind that gave the feeling a big storm was imminent. The clouds remained white overhead but turned black bottomed as the moved further east & I believe some rain fell in that direction.

I returned to the lower Peavine shaft at 1:30 PM. There were 2 rosy finches (both tephrocotis head pattern) already in the shaft! (I first looked in & spotted them, then dropped a few rocks to determine if any other birds were present). The temp was 42°F. Max had been 46°F.





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RE Johnson  
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Jan 26 Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co., Nevada

Strong winds blew making a cool day cold. Clouds totally obscured the sun. Within the shaft I noted over 30 house flies perhaps taking shelter from the wind. I hadn't noticed them prior to this but they could easily have been present. I noticed them this time while examining the crypts in the walls with binoculars for rosy finches. Some are 30 ft down.

2:10 PM 20 rosy finches drop in from high in the sky, arriving from the south & chirping in descent.

2:21 PM 3 more, these from the east. Quiet.

2:25 1 from se, drops from high while chirping.

2:35 1 from s, chirping.

2:46 3 from s, faint chirping.

2:54 1 leaves to south chirping.

3:05 1st brief ray of sun all afternoon (20 seconds)

3:13 15 birds (sp?, small Fringillids) Fly low <sup>(4 ft. up)</sup> over entrance to mine. Flying west.

3:20 1 rosy finch flies in from high to the mine like a bullet. [temp 44°F].

3:25 12 Pine Siskins Fly low over shaft ~~at~~ Flying west. Perhaps the 3:13 PM birds were also Siskins.

3:26 another brief glimpse of sun.

3:40 I heard <sup>rosy finch</sup> chirps & thought I heard the swish of a bird going by but saw nothing.

3:44 1 rosy finch enters shaft from se.

3:45 2 rosy finches fly out side hole, circle, and enter the main shaft as if in chase.



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1970Jan. 26 Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co., Nevada

4:01 A unparalleled bright burst of sun. Thereafter occasional glimpses of sun for next 15 minutes.

4:30 PM TA = 42°F. Wind still strong. Clouds passing over as before. No rosy finches seen for approx 45 minutes. I leave Frozen & shivering. Quiet a wind!

I drove on down toward Reno & stopped beside the side rd that I explored earlier today. Hiked to the **2** vertical shafts I mentioned earlier. Also checked a third that is intersected by a horizontal shaft. I hadn't noted any bird droppings in it however. The deepest shaft contained one lonely littoralis. The more shallow one contained two rosy finches. The other <sup>third</sup> shaft had the most: 2 tephrocotis head pattern & 3 littoralis. So these 3 shafts make the 4th location on Peavine Mtn where I have found roosting rosy finches over the past 3 years. Of these only the upper Peavine shaft is currently unused (plugged by snow).

Jan. 27 Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co., Nevada

Rained hard starting at 10 PM last night & blown by heavy winds from west. I got up a little late & dashed to the mine shaft (lower Peavine) just before 35 rosy finches left the shaft & flew ne at 6:48 AM. At 6:52 I heard a rock fall in the shaft & immediately 8 more flew out & east. At 6:59 AM 6 more left heading south, then circled & flew east.



## Journal

R. E. Johnson  
1976Jan. 27 Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co., Nevada

Their exit was preceded by several minutes of chirping.

7:00AM 32°F. Nights had been 32°F. There is blue directly overhead & extending east in a narrow band. Clouds fill the sky to the n, s, & se. To the west ~~is~~ is a dark blanket of clouds obscuring the entire Sierras & extending down to the canyon bottoms. The heavy rain last night melted nearly all the snow that remained on the north facing slope beside the mine, but now a few snow flakes are falling & beginning to stick. Only 500ft higher to the north a light layer of new snow has accumulated. Left shaft at 7:15AM after checking shaft to be sure no birds remained.

It is interesting that my morning bird totals are fairly consistent (43, 44, 49) whereas the afternoon arrival data is quite variable (<sup>27, 59</sup>~~28, 58~~, 31). But the number going in & out must be equal! I'm not sure why the discrepancy. Perhaps the arrival data is spread over so long a period that my attention is reduced and the results reflect this. Perhaps also the birds move occasionally in my absence.

By 8AM a thin layer of sleet has accumulated in the bulldozed area.

Drove back to Reno & up US395 north toward Black Springs but turned off left up Hoge St (just past the market at the top of the grade) and drove to the top. The road goes on from here to several houses & on west up Peavine Mtn but it is very muddy. I parked & walked west down across the creek & then explored 30-40 mine dumps & prospect holes.



## Journal

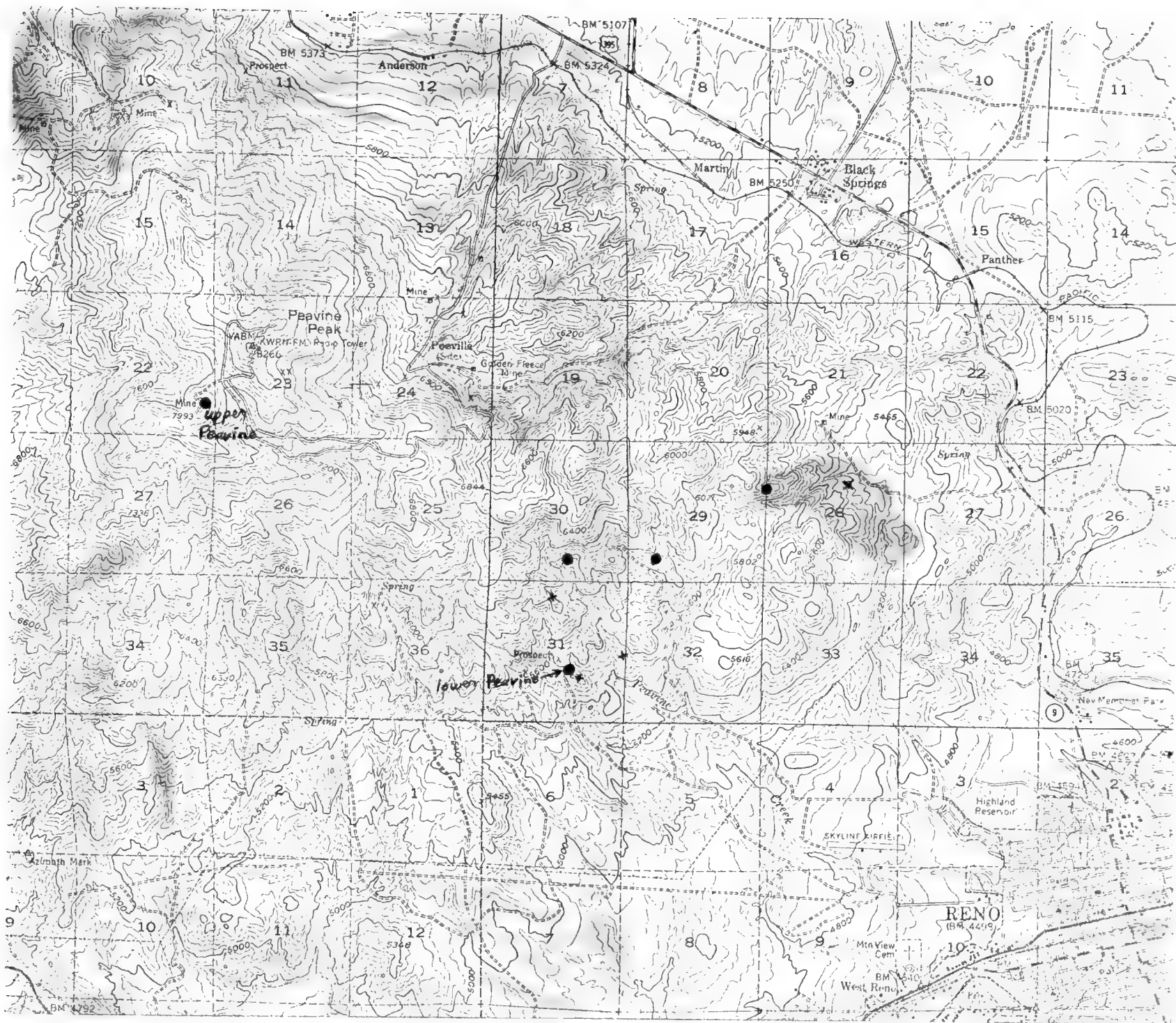
R.E. Johnson  
1970Jan 27 Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co, Nevada

The area covered is on the attached map. Several were not explored in the right (north) portion of the area. Most noteworthy were 3 locations ① a vertical shaft 30 ft deep located just to the south of an underground seismographic station of the Univ. of Nevada. The west wall of the shaft was wet & dripping. I couldn't be sure if there were any droppings of finches on the walls since areas of the walls were white. ② a deep (60+ ft.) vertical shaft far up the mtn & out of sight from the roads. It is accompanied by <sup>large</sup> mine dumps. I have seen it twice before from 2 different directions: Once ~~from~~ from the large vertical mine shafts far up Peavine Creek that I examined twice yesterday (from there it was located ne) and once from the plateau on the east edge of Peavine Mtn visited Jan 25 in the morning. (The mine was no. from there). This large shaft is obviously heavily used by rosy finches since every nook & ledge has bird skats. ③ a very deep horizontal tunnel located east of ② but on the same ridge. It enters from the south side, running north. There are 3 tunnels, but 2 are very short. The central one goes much deeper than I wanted to follow. Of course no sign of rosy finches at this one. It has a red mine dump which is barely visible from the car. You'd never guess such a large shaft was there. No other deep shafts of any sort were found despite several impressive mine dumps.

Birds seen in the area include 10 Meadowlarks, 50 Horned Larks, 80 Pine Siskins, 25 Oregon Juncos & one









## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970Jan. 27. Peavine Mtn., Washoe Co., NevadaSparrow Hawk.

I returned to the lower Peavine shaft at 1:48 PM. Just east of the hole I saw a Hairy Woodpecker on ~~the~~ a limb of a Ponderosa Pine tree.

When I arrived at the shaft (1:48), I dropped my pack 50 ft from the hole & 7 rosy finches flew out & flew east, apparently in response to the sound of the light rattling in my pack when it hit. One (alittoralis) returned to the shaft.

1:51 PM I started to examine the shaft to see # of birds & 4 rosy finches arrived overhead. I ran back & they entered. Temp. 37°F (low since this AM was 31°F).

2:02 PM - 2 fly out & then in.

2:07 10 ~~fly~~ from high (From e?) enter.

2:08 1 exits to sw

2:09 1 exits to ne (probably in response to a falling rock I heard in the shaft).

2:20 2 leave to e. & return one at time.

2:24 1 <sup>litt.</sup> sits on rim, then drops back in hole.

2:40 2 exit to e., 3 return.

2:43 2 fly up from shaft: one sits on lip, other flies east, both return down side hole.

2:44 1 out & lands on pine tree to ne.

2:45 2 out & fly e.

2:50 10 in from e.

2:52 10 in from e

2:54 1 in from e. ; 5 fly out



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# Journal

Jan. 27 Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co., Nevada

- 2:58 PM 4 fly out to west (apparently in response to my cracking a limb 80 ft away).
- 2:59 PM 4 in from e.
- 3:00 2 in
- 3:02 1 in
- 3:03 1 flies in.
- 3:08 2 fly in from ne.
- 3:15 1 from e (may have gone out side hole & in main hole).
- 3:21 5 from s
- 3:41 6 fly in from s: Chirping was heard for a couple minutes before hand. Perhaps they had landed nearby in trees.
- 3:56 1 flew in from North.
- 4:00 34°F; sun all afternoon & hard cold wind from west. No clouds except over Sierras & those are diminishing.
- 4:55 Sun goes behind Sierras.
- 5:00 30°F
- 5:03 sun no longer hits any point in view on Peavine Mtn.
- 5:05 I leave. Checked small vertical shaft uphill to se. No birds.

Today (afternoon) I saw a hunter with 3 dogs along the fence line road. Also many cyclists in the bull dozed area. Yesterday jeeps & cycles were along the fence line. So even



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970Jan. 27 Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co, Nevada to Berkeley, Calif

on week days the area gets use. However it appears greatest use is of the bulldozed area, next heaviest the fence line which is especially challenging for jeeps & some cycles and least heaviest is the mine shaft area. So perhaps the shaft isn't disturbed as often as I have sometimes thought. Still I've seen people at the shaft on several occasions over the past 3 years and the continuing dumping of trash in the shaft, the placement of a fence & its removal, etc all indicate that a number of people do get to the shaft. Three times I've seen vehicles at the shaft besides my own. On this trip I've seen 1 vehicle & 2 parties on foot at the shaft. However people may not reach the shaft during the core of winter (Feb - March) when snow is maximum & the approach roads are often impossible even to the bulldozed area.

Drove back to Berkeley over Interstate 80. Snow has been cleared off Donner Pass since noon today.





R.E. Johnson  
1970

# Journal

Feb. 4 Merced National Wildlife Refuge, Merced Co., Calif.

Left Berkeley at 6AM with Paul W. Sykes, Jr of Rare & Endangered species program & Jim H. Hunt (UC Zoology). Central valley filled with low thick fog until 11AM. Had trouble finding the refuge, let alone the birds! Saw Canada Geese, Ross Geese, Shorebirds, Pintail, American Egret, Snowy Egret, Great Blue Heron, Coot, <sup>Ring-necked Pheasant</sup> Water Pipit, W.C. Sparrow, Red-shafted Flicker, Long-billed Marsh Wren, Marsh Hawk, Golden Eagle, Red-tailed Hawk, Coopers Hawk, Burrowing Owl, Killdeer, Amer. Avocet, Common Gallinule, Long-billed Curlew, Least Sandpiper, & Sandhill Crane. Carroll Littlefield (studying cranes) said Cattle Egrets were also present.

Feb. 4 Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co., Nevada

Left Merced at 12:30PM, dropped by UC Davis, then on to Reno & Peavine Mtn. We scared many birds from the shaft via Flashlights. <sup>Lower Peavine</sup> The birds would often fly directly toward the light and many could have been caught by hand. Finally, <sup>at 7PM</sup> Jim caught one (Littoralis) in his ~~coat~~ <sup>wt. 24.5 grams.</sup> coat. This one I killed & saved for a skin. Ambient temp at <sup>7:30PM</sup> ~~this time~~ was 34° F. There were about 35 birds in the shaft & all that I could see well (at least 15) were Littoralis. No sign of Tephrocotis. None of the birds attempted to return to the shaft. We also checked the shallower hole up hill to the south & found no birds. Drove back to Berkeley arriving at 1:30AM. No snow at the shaft & probably no precip since I was last there.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970Feb 4 Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co., Nevada

little snow visible toward the top of Peavine Mtn. The road just might be open! The higher pls toward Donner Pass, etc are less snowy than 2 wks ago & snow is generally subpar for this season. Sky clear. Cool, but not cold at all. Still



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970June 12 Berkeley to Mt. Shasta, Calif.

Left Berkeley ~~at~~ approx 4:30 PM & drove in heavy traffic via Interstate 80, 505, & 5 through Redding to Mt. Shasta City & then up the Memorial Hwy to the Ski Bowl on Mt. Shasta, arriving there at approx 10:00 PM. (The trip was slowed by heavy traffic, an 18 mile wrong turn, & a stop at a market). When I left Berkeley fair weather was expected in the mtns but by 5:30 or 6 PM the radio reported a new cold front & snow or rain in the mtns! Great! When I arrived at the Ski Bowl (closed) there was a blizzard going & very strong winds. I had to drive at 5 mph in order to find the road. I returned down the road to Mc Bride Spring Campground for the night. It rained all night. Rather different weather from my trip on June 10 & 11, 1967 when it was still, hot & clear.

June 13 Mt. Shasta, Siskiyou Co., California

Rain at the campground this AM. I finally drove to the ski bowl at 10 AM or after. Some snow falling there. I decided to attempt to hike to Mud Creek after rosy finches even though visibility was often down to 30 ft. Fortunately I remember the topography quite well from the trip 3 yrs ago. During clearer moments I took compass readings to aid the return trip. Snow is hard & not nearly so deep as 3 yrs ago so the hiking ~~is~~ much easier than before. But I can't see where I'm going!

There were 2 Mtn. Bluebirds & a Chipping Sparrow near ~~the~~ road end. I saw no birds after that until reaching the top of Sargent's Ridge at 9400 ft where I collected a ♂ Littoralis Rosy Finch feeding on moist bare ground along the ridge top. There are few patches of bare ground along to route to this point but many beyond this



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970

June 13

MT. Shasta, Siskiyou Co., Calif.

Toward Mud Creek. I saw one rosy finch fly high overhead when the clouds lifted for 15 min. and I heard 2 others upslope to the north. I reached the Mud Creek canyon lip in a blizzard at 3 PM & shortly decided to make the return trip while I could still make some use of my tracks in the snow. The sky is now very dark, clouds on the ground, & snow coming down hard. The moraines of Mud Creek are avalanching continually. Saw no birds on the return trip until I reached the last ridge before descending to the car. At this point, <sup>8400 ft</sup> I collected a ♀ Rosy Finch with one cheek gray only to the eyeline & the other gray much further down — i.e. a littoralis x dawsoni hybrid. She was feeding on a moist patch of bare ground on the ridge top. The storm had subsided so I explored the bare ground patches east of this ridge & west of Sargents Ridge proper but found no other Rosy Finches. I did see some pocket gopher tunnels (or rather cores of dirt above ground, left from tunnels under snow). I also heard a coyote & ~~saw~~ a chipmunk & saw a Golden-mantled Ground Squirrel. Downslope I heard a Nutcracker.

The 2nd rosy finch was collected below the highest scraggly trees, which are White-bark Pine. There are also a few Fir & ~~MT.~~ Hemlock trees. A low <sup>(1 ft tall or less)</sup> manzanita forms continuous cores in some areas around the trees. About the only plant above this level is an Eriogonum. A Pasqueflower is beginning to open on some of the lower (8000 ft.) patches of snow free wet ground.

I returned to the car at 6 PM & drove down to McBride Spring & back to generate some heat inside the car to dry clothing. Also explored roads at Bunny Flat & to Sand Flat. Returned to





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970June 13 Mt. Shasta, Siskiyou Co., California

Shi area to skin birds & cook dinner (& sleep). alternately rained & snowed.

Heard Rock Wrens at Bunny Flat

Radio says clear or at least clearing tomorrow!

June 14 Mt. Shasta, Siskiyou Co., California

6:10 AM The outside of the car windows thickly iced & the sliding side door required 5 minutes to open by banging & kicking due to thick ice. The snow & road are covered with fresh glare ice. The sky is largely clear but with a dark blanket of clouds to the south & a halo of clouds around the top of Mt. Shasta. To the east are scattered small cumulus clouds. The sun will shine today!

A <sup>Mtn</sup> Chickadee can be heard. Later at 7 AM 6 Pine Siskins flew over the car as I began hike toward Mud Creek. On the approach to Sargent's Ridge I heard a Rock Wren and an Oregon Junco, the latter singing from the top of a small white barked pine. All the ground that was bare yesterday now has an inch of fresh snow on it. I reached Sargent's Ridge top at 8:15 AM. Dark clouds were coming up from the se & reaching this level. It is still clear ± elsewhere & even over Mt. Shasta summit. Last night's snow has formed drifts up to 8 inches in depth. Between 8:00 & 8:30 AM a number of snow avalanches came down so. Facing slopes just east of Sargent's ridge. By 9:15 AM I was on Mud Creek Rim but clouds were so thick I couldn't see a thing. Back to pea soup fog like yesterday. At 9:30 AM I saw 3 rosy finches fly so. out of Mud Creek & contour around mtn Shasta. I attempted to follow them with no success. It started to snow lightly.

I hiked down (se) the mtn  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile, then sw contouring to



R.E. Johnson  
1970

# Journal

June 14 MT Shasta, Siskiyou Co., Calif.

The ridge with w. facing ~~#~~ cliffs & slightly beyond, then ate lunch. In the process I saw a cony & a golden mantled ground squirrel, & heard a rosy finch. While eating the sun came out & the snow stopped. I noted abundant Geum, Cassiope & Phlox where I was eating (8800 ft.). Next I hiked down slope (sc) exploring bare ground areas <sup>occasional with sparse</sup> until I reached a knob (8809 ft.) where I reversed & followed a ridge (w. of my route downslope) back up. Near the bottom I saw a Rock Wren & a chipmunk. The ridge I followed up was very rocky & covered with WB Pine, Creeping Juniper & Chinquapin. At 1 PM snow began falling again. I head back toward Mud Creek. Between 1:30 & 3:30 or 4:00 PM I heard rosy finches several times but only twice saw the bird - once so close I couldn't collect him.

Returned to the car at 5 PM. I got shunked! Where were all the rosy finches? I also got sunburned even though the sun rarely shined & dense fog prevailed. The day started out looking good & I was optimistic. But I spent a longer day & had <sup>only</sup> a little better weather than yesterday & got no birds.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970

June 23

Berkeley, Calif. to Sagehen Creek, Calif.

Drove from Berkeley at 10 PM approx with Sheila Byrne + arrived around 2 AM.

June 24

Sagehen Creek Calif. to Wheeler Pk area (Snake Range), White Pine Co. Nevada

Drove all day & arrived after 5 PM. Drove the new road to the head of Lehman Creek, visited the Lehman Caves Visitor Center, and hiked their nature trail. Plants near the caves were:

Cliffrose - Cowania mexicana - in bloom

Joint Fir (Mormon Tea) - Ephedra viridis.

Prickly Pear - Opuntia sp.

Mtn. Mahogany - Cercocarpus ledifolius

Big Sagebrush - Artemisia tridentata

Pinon Pine - Pinus monophylla

Utah Juniper - Juniperus osteosperma

at 8 AM I took the loop trail (Solace loop) from the upper campground & made the loop past Stella & Teresa Lakes (3 miles) & saw the following birds:

Chipping Sparrow - copulating

Audubon Warbler

Hermit Thrush

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Western Wood Pewee

Robin

Cassin's Finch

Camped at upper campground.

June 25

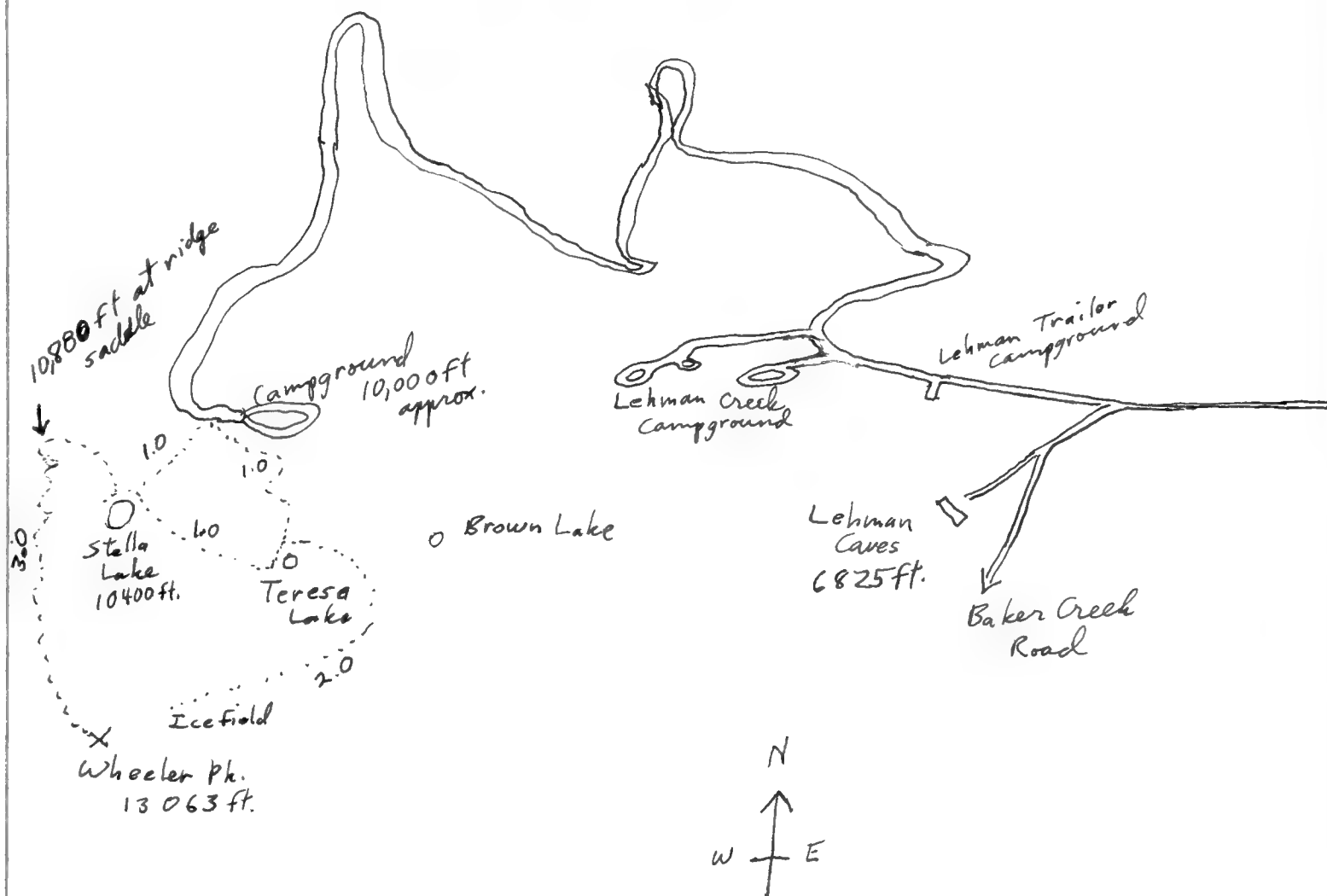
Wheeler Pk & vicinity, Nevada



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970June 25 Wheeler Pk + vicinity, Nevada to central Utah

Started up Wheeler Peak from upper campground at 6 AM. Trail is easy as far as Stella Lake, then climbs more steeply + is in poorer shape. I took my time along the lower part while watching birds. Birds between camp + Stella Lake (WB Pine, ~~Spruce~~, Aspen + meadow): Hermit Thrush, R.C. Kinglet, Robin, Mtn Chickadee, Audubon Warbler, Clarke Nutcracker, Pine Siskin, Wood Pewee, Violet Green Swallow, Cassin Finch, Western Tanager, Gray-headed Junco, Hairy Woodpecker (?), Chipping Sparrow, Hummers (sp?), ~~■~~ Mtn Bluebird, + a Wren (sp?).



Above Stella Lake timber occurs to the ridgetop + at scattered places along the ridge. In these upper open stands an Empidonax Flycatcher was heard.

Once above trees Water Pipits were common, especially





R.E. Johnson  
1970

# Journal

June 25

Wheeler Pk + vicinity, Nevada to central Utah  
around snow banks on north facing slopes.

I spent several hours on the summit ridge of the pk & heard rosy finches down the south face several times & only once down the north face. I descended the south slope & saw one black rosy finch but couldn't collect him. It seems possible that a few birds nest on the cliffs part way down this slope.

I also descended north & east to the top of the big cirque holding the ice field. Rosy Finches seemed common below & I collected 4 that were feeding at the top edge on moist ground below snow fields. Two (#969-970) were almost certainly paired. They fed together for several minutes. The ♂ chased another male away a few yards and he also displayed (wing tips on ground & ~~flapping~~ moving wrist up & down in wave) to her. The other 2 birds may also have been a pair since they fed together.

Plants near the top included: Silene acaulis, Geum rossii, Polomonium viscosum, Primula parryi, Phlox (white), Buttercup.

I returned to the car at 4:30 PM and drove on to central Utah (east of Heber City) & spent the night.

June 26 central Utah to Estes Park, Colorado

Drove via US 40 through Vernal, Utah & Steamboat Springs, Colo. to Granby & then over Trail Ridge Road in Rocky Mtn Nat'l Park to Estes Park & Deer Mtn Cabins where Katherine Bell is staying.

June 27-July 2 Rocky Mtn National Park & vicinity.



R.E. Johnson  
1970

~~Rocky Mtn~~  
Journal

June 27-July 2 Rocky Mtn Nat'l Park & vicinity, Colorado

Spent the bulk of these days helping Katherine set up equipment to measure environmental parameters on the tundra. She still can not carry much weight on her foot after the broken leg & ankle earlier this year. We tried to hike to Mt. Audubon (~~south~~ south of the park) to collect rose finches but were stopped by a thunderstorm. ~~Thunderstorms~~ Thunderstorms occur nearly every afternoon & continue into the evenings. On July 2 we drove to Denver to pick up Katherine's sister, Martha, who will help with the work on the tundra.

The only alpine birds I've seen so far on Trail Ridge are the Water Pipit (common) & Horned Lark (slightly less common). Ptarmigan skats are common. ~~Marmonets~~ Marmots are common in rocky areas.

Plants in bloom on the meadows are:

Geum rossii, Eritrichium arcticoides, Hymenoxys grandiflora & H. acaulis, Polomonium viscosum, Erysimum nivale, Mertensia viridis, Polygonum bistortoides, Thapsi alpestris, Anemone narcissiflora, Sedum rosea, Lloydia serotina, Castilleja occidentalis, Primula angustifolia, Saxifraga rhomboides. In fell fields these species occur: Silene acaulis, Trifolium nanum, Trifolium dasycyllum, Arenaria obtusiloba, Paronychia sessiliflora var. pulvinata, Phlox pulvinata. In snow accumulation areas: Ranunculus adoneus.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson

July 3

MT. Audubon, Boulder Co., Colorado

Last night

Drove south via Colo. Hwy 7 from Estes Park to Ward & then up the forest service road (Roosevelt Nat'l Forest) to the Indian Pks Recreation Area & camped beside Brainard Lake <sup>10345ft.</sup>  
 This morning hiked up trail toward MT. Audubon (4 miles by trail), but left it after a mile or so (where it 1st starts to climb steeply & switchback toward tundra ridge) & cut west up across tundra & into lower end of cirque valley draining from east face of MT. Audubon into Mitchell Lake (see Ward 7½ min. series topo). Birds encountered included Water Pipit & WC Sparrow. One Water Pipit nest was found at 11200ft <sup>a patch of</sup> just to east of the cirque valley. ~~It~~ It was in Geum rossii, Shooting Star, Sedum rosea, Polygonum bistortoides, & Caltha leptosepala & only 1 ft from a 1 ft wide stream. Boulders were to the west. The patch of tundra was flanked by 2 sp. of 2 ft. tall willows on the other 3 sides. The nest faced south, contained 4 brown eggs & the ♀ was incubating. I flushed her.

Aerial displays by pipits were common everywhere I went today. Pikas were very abundant. Yellow bellied Marmots were common.

The first rosy finches were heard as I descended into the lower end of the cirque valley, however I didn't see any until I reached the continuous snow field at the upper end of the cirque. Here they feed on the snow surface, mostly at the lower end (not the snow mud margins but out on the snow 10-30 ft.). I collected 10 (7 ♂, 3 ♀) here & on the cliffs



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970

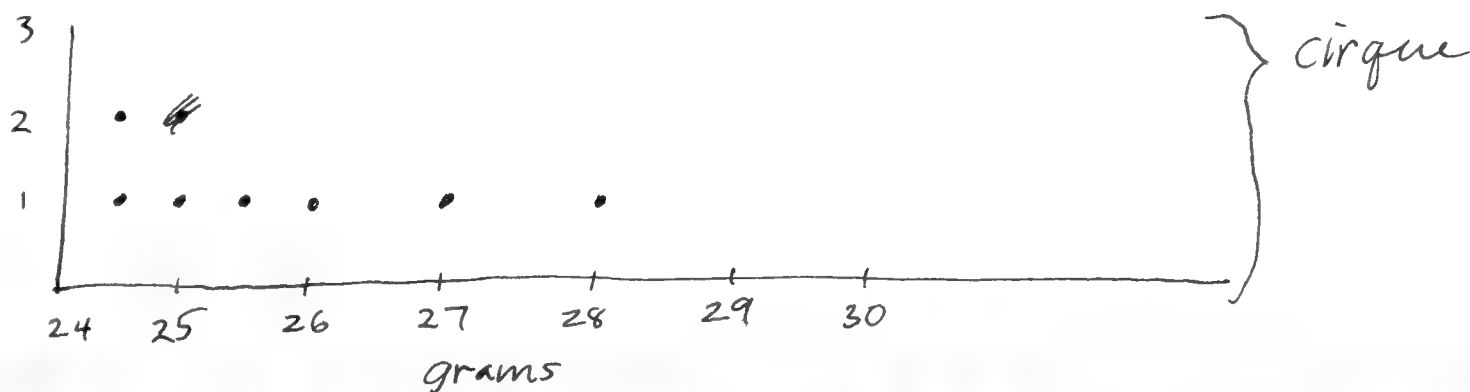
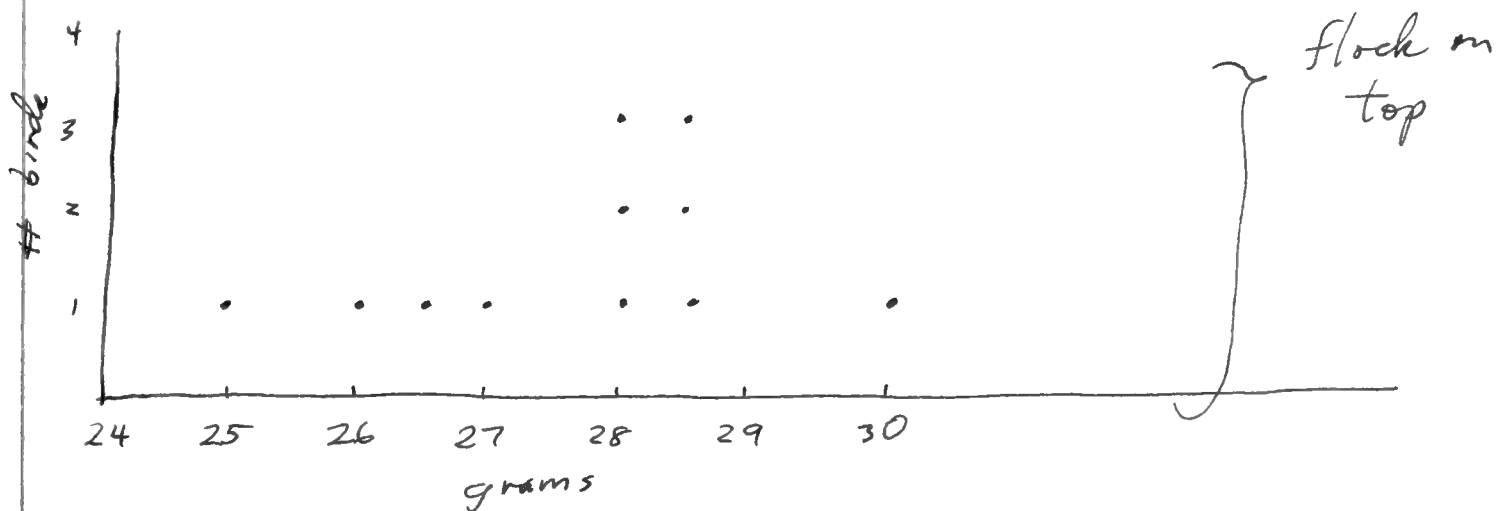
July 3

MT. Audubon, Boulder Co., Colorado

just above. The ♀s had brood patches & appeared to be breeders. Two were paired. A male chased other males away from one of them & displayed to her. Later, as clouds darkened the sky & lowered over the summit, I climbed up the talus slope to the NW & hiked to the top. Aquilegia saximontana was very common as I climbed out of the cirque & Claytonia megarhiza was common above. My camera shutter speed control broke so no pictures today. (Also Besseya alpina I believe).

Near the summit I encountered a flock of  $50 \pm$  rosy finches (all ♂s) & collected until my ammo. ran out. I also got 2 ♀s & a ♂ not part of the flock. The eleven flock males averaged heavier than the males from the cirque:

	<u>mean</u>	<u>range</u>
flock	27.7 grams	25.0 - 30.0
cirque	25.8	24.5 - 28.0







## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970

July 3

MT. Audubon, Boulder Co., Colorado

Perhaps the cirque birds are ~~less~~<sup>lighter</sup> because they are partially occupied with fighting, displaying & chasing. The others are non-breeders(?) & have more time to feed. I wonder if these latter are 1st year birds? \*

I left the top at 7PM when the top was closed in by clouds & visibility very poor. Drove back to Estes Park.

	testes	
	mean length	mean width
* Flock birds	10.5 mm	7.0 mm
cirque birds	11.1 <del>10.5</del> mm	8.0 mm

∴ The flock birds averaged slightly smaller testes.

July 4-5 Estes Park, Colorado

Stuffed rosy finches. Church. Etc

July 6 Estes Park to Fort Collins & return, Colorado

Drove to Fort Collins to pick up Weather Station & other supplies for tundra study area.

July 7 Rocky Mtn Nat'l Park, Colo.

Installed weather station on Trail Ridge Rd.

July 8 Rocky Mtn. Nat'l Park, Colo

Drove Fall River Pass Road, visited alpine Visitor Center on Fall River Pass, hiked tundra nature trail to Toll Memorial, explored tundra for flowers & birds. Birds seen:

Raven, WT. Ptarmigan, Waters Pipit, Horned Lark, Violet Green Swallow, Robin, White-crowned Sparrow, & Rosy Finch. <sup>+ V.G. Swallows.</sup> Rosy Finches were very common in the cirque ~~at~~ occupied by Iceberg Lake. The only Ptarmigan seen was



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970July 8 Rocky Mtn. Nat'l Park, Colorado

on the north slope of the ridge just above a large permanent snow field.

Camped near stone cabins on east end of Trail Ridge Rd.

July 9 Rocky Mtn Nat'l Park, Colorado to Rollins Pass

Explored area n & w of stone cabins on Trail Ridge. Saw 6-8 Rosy Finches feeding along moist snow margins & less commonly on snow surface. The area used for feeding was within 4 ft of the snow edge. The snow bank was in a rocky area. Ranunculus adoneus was the only plant blooming in the <sup>feeding</sup> area. One ♂ flicked his wings open & up, & raised its tail to 45° & ran 4 or 5 steps toward a nearby feeding ♀. Then he resumed feeding.

W.T. Ptarmigan were heard calling at about 6:30 AM. One was seen at 10 AM in a rocky snow accumulation area on an e. facing slope.

In the afternoon  
Drove south via Colo. Hwy 7 from Estes Park to Rollinsville & then turned west up a dirt road through Tolland & on up the Rollins Pass Rd as far as Yankee Doodle Lake. Snow blocked the road just above the lake. Katherine & Martha Bell & I hiked up the road to Needle's Eye Tunnel (tunnel # 32) to look for rosy finch nests. Martha had ~~seen~~ watched 3 active nests there last year. One of the same sites is now occupied. It is located on a flake in the ceiling of the tunnel about midway through the tunnel (ie 40 ft. from either end). I suspect there is also another nest ~~in the~~ judging from the activities of another bird. The other two



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970

July 9 Rocky Mtn Nat'l Park & Rollins Pass, Colorado  
old nests were located (1) 8 ft up the side wall just outside the south entrance & (2) at the top of the east sidewall + ~~25~~ 25 ft ~~from~~ from south entrance. Ceiling is 20 ft high.

We continued up road to Rollins Pass & I collected 3 ♂ Rosy Finches feeding on the snow surface on the east slopes of the pass. Also saw W.C. Sparrows, Horned Larks & Water Pipits feeding on snow surface.

Most of afternoon was spent in cold wind & rain. Cleared in <sup>late</sup> evening. Camped beside road below Yankee Doodle Lake.

July 10 Return to Estes Park, Colorado

Drove back up to Yankee Doodle Lake to see it. under clear skies, then down again & back to Estes Park. Skinned Rosy Finches from Rollins Pass. Showered (1st of trip!).

July 11 Specimen Mtn, 12489 ft., Rocky Mtn Nat'l Park, Colorado

Katherine & I drove over Trail Ridge Rd to Milner Pass (10758 ft.) & then hiked to the top of Specimen Mtn. We saw Rosy Finches & W.T. Ptarmigan at the very summit and Robins, W.C. Sparrows, V.G. Swallows, Horned Larks & Water Pipits at a saddle at 11440 ft. We also saw a Raven above treeline. A heavy hail & rain storm soaked us & forced an early return to avoid lightning danger.

July 12 Estes Park to Mtn Evans, Colorado

Didn't leave Estes Park until after 6 PM sometime. Drove Colo. Hwy 7 south through Nederland & Central City to Idaho



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970July 12 Estes Park to Mt. Evans, Colorado

Falls & then up the MT Evans road to a point above treeline where I camped.

July 13 Mt. Evans, 14264 Ft., Clear Creek Co., Colorado

Drove up road & collected 4 rosy finches <sup>at 8:30 AM</sup> beside road above Lincoln Lake. They were feeding beside snow banks that extended down the mtn to roadside. Drove on to Summit Lake (12830 ft.) & collected 4 Rosy Finches along the lake shore before 9:30 AM. Another was collected at 10:10 AM, however tourist traffic was now preventing my collecting & several other ~~rosy~~ rosy finches were seen but not collected. When I arrived Water Pipits & Rosy Finches feed along the lake shores & also on the ice surface which covered  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the lake. Mtn-Bluebirds were also seen.

I drove on up to the summit of Mt. Evans (14264 ft.). From the top (short trail) one can see Summit Lake, Chicago Creek Reservoir (10617) & Echo Lake (10597) to the north & ne. Ravens & White-throated Swifts were seen. Rosy Finches were common down the north face. I thought I had located a nest site by watching RF behavior but when I climbed down to the crack I could see no nest. However the nest could have been located deeper in the crack than I could see.

I skinned the 9 birds collected earlier today & then collected 7 ♂ & 1 ♀ on the north face of Mt. Evans between 7 & 9 PM. The ♂'s were all singing (chink chink chink chink etc) from high rock perches when shot. All such singing ended at 9 PM but was intense until then. The ♀ was the only one seen today.





Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970

July 13 Mt. Evans, 14264 FT, Clear Creek Co., Colorado



Summit Lake, Mt. Evans Highway, Colorado



R.E. Johnson  
1970

# Journal

July 13 MT. Evans, 14264 ft, Clear Creek Co., Colorado

Drove down to Summit Lake to cook dinner. Thousand of 1 inch long moths in flight on summit of pk & along highway at least as far down as Summit Lake. Camped.

July 14 MT. Evans area to Denver, Colorado

Heard 1st rosy finch chirps at 5 AM when a little light was appearing in the east. Water Pipits were also heard from then on. I collected 7 Rosy Finches along the shore of Summit Lake between 6 & 7 AM. One was a ♀. Then I drove down the road toward Idaho Springs & collected 2 more rosy finches a mile from Summit Lake that were feeding in the wet gutter & adjacent snow bank.

Drove on to Denver to have the VW checked. It was low on oil & acting "damaged" yesterday. Arrived at 8:45 AM. Car ready at 10:30 AM & OK! Drove to Estes Park & skinned ~~1~~<sup>13</sup> rosy finches. Visited with Katherine.

July 15 Estes Park & vicinity, Colo.

Skinned 5 rosy finches. Visited study area on Trail Ridge. Birds seen there: Robin, Water Pipit, WC. Sparrow,

~~W. Wren~~ <sup>Pine Siskin</sup> Gray-headed Junco, Mtn. Bluebird, Rock Wren & Horned Lark.

The latter two were on fell field & rock outcrop areas only. A Deer was seen near the study area.

July 16 Estes Park to Walden, Colorado

Spent part of day on Trail Ridge & then drove on to Walden to camp. Located Gray-headed Junco nest with 4 large young

1771+

addenda

July 16 Junco Nest

Katherine wrote these subsequent observations

July 17 4 yng in nest

18 { yng leave nest

{ an adult seen carrying nest material

July 16 Mtn Bluebird nest

Katherine also noted bluebirds still occupy the nest on  
July 17.

## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970July 16 Estes Park To Walden, Colo.

on tundra under rock with nest material extending 4 inches in front of nest. Nest faced east. Located 100 ft no. of 3 stone cabins.

A Mtn Bluebird nest <sup>with eggs</sup> is located on ne corner of n. bldg.

A Bighorn Sheep Ram was seen on the rd at Rock Cut. Several Pine Siskins were again seen.

July 17 Walden, Colo to Wendover, Utah

Visited Forest Service in Walden about trails into Mt. Zirkle Wild Area. All knowledgeable personnel were in field so I learned nothing. Drove the dirt roads marked in orange on the map. General conclusion was that the best route in from the east side is from Livingston Park, unless a better route occurs far north from Big Creek Lakes where new logging roads may shorten the route in. Other routes that appear shorter on the map are across the land of unfriendly ranchers. Mileage From Walden to Livingston Park by road:

Walden to:

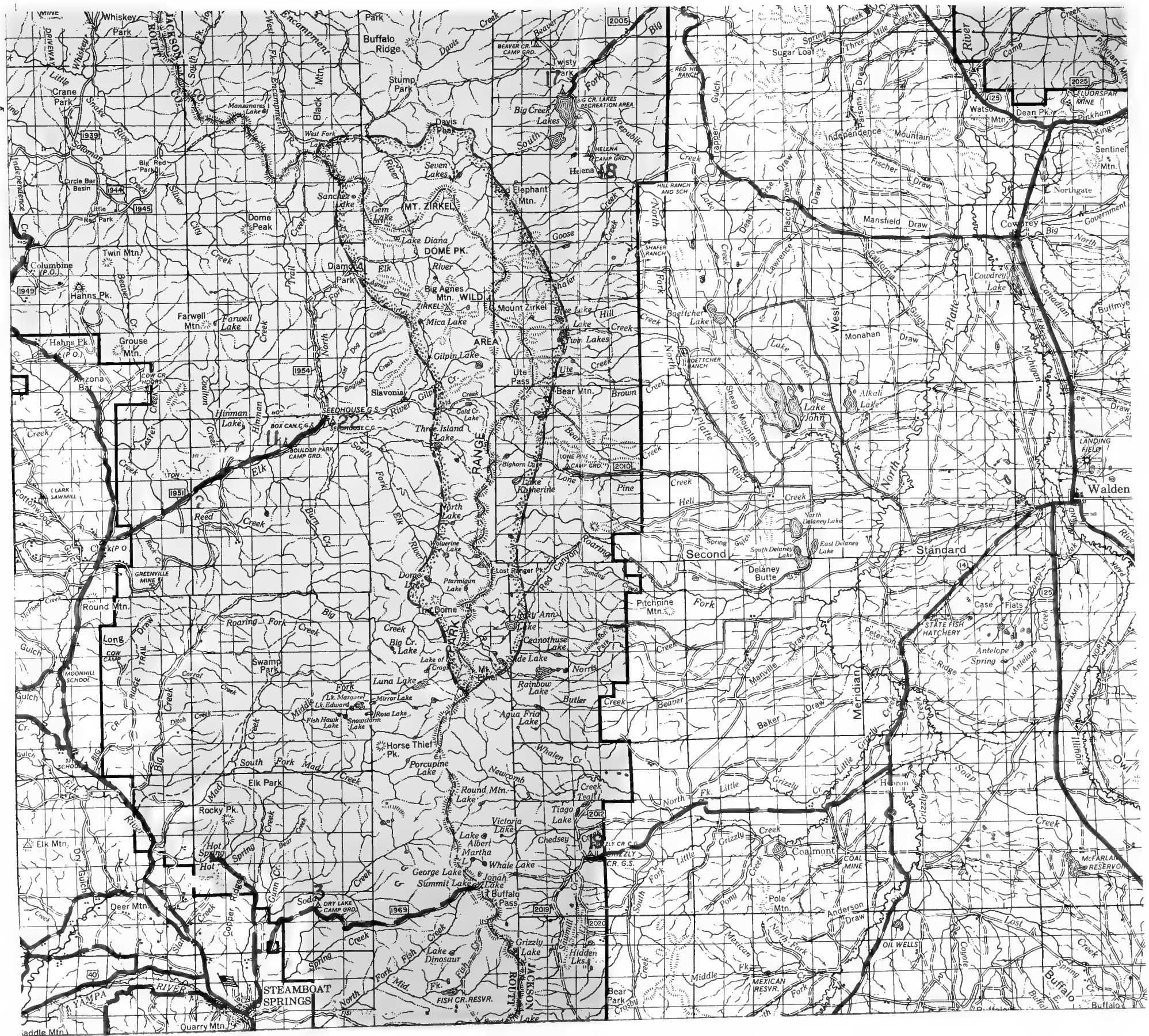
Jot Rd to John Lake	5.4
Jot Rd to Delaney Lakes	10.0
USFS boundary	19.4
Trail sign	19.5
End of road	19.6

Trail mileage from Livingston Park: Rainbow Lake 4,  
Slide Lake 6, Rosy Ann Lake 9 miles.



RE Johnson  
1970

July 17



round, eleven miles west of Yampa,  
nits. Do not bring trailer houses to  
are no boating facilities at the lake.  
round, 25 miles west of Phippsburg,  
camp sites. There are no boating

79





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79

RE Johnson  
1970  
July 17





RE. Johnson  
1970

# Journal

July 17 Walden, Colo to Wendover, Utah

Mileages on the Grizzly Helena Trail from the Lone Pine Rd (Trail #1126) → :

Bear Cr. 1 1/2 mi.

Twin Lakes Tr. 7 mi.

Blue Lake Tr. 9 mi.

The trail (#1126) from the end of the Lone Pine Rd did not have a trail sign.

Rd Mileages on Lone Pine Rd starting at Jct of rd to Boettcher Ranch:

Lone Pine Ranch 2.1 mile

USFS boundary ~~5.3~~ 5.3

Grizzly Helena Tr. 7.0

End of Rd (Campground) 8.0

I found a Mtn Bluebird nest in ~~an~~ an 8 ft high road bank facing west just north of the Boettcher - Lone Pine Ranch Jct. It contained 5 eggs & the ♀ was incubating. Located 6 ft above rd level.

Spent night west of Wendover, Utah.

July 18 Wendover, Utah to Berkeley, Calif.

Returning across Nevada I saw a little snow on the tops of Sonoma Pk & vicinity (so. of Golconda) & Star Pk (near Rye Patch Res). The Ruby Mtns are covered with snow yet.

Arrived in Berkeley at 6:45 PM.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970

Aug 14

Berkeley to Sonora Pass, Calif.

Left Berkeley about 4:30 PM & drove east to Walnut Creek, south <sup>Interstate</sup> on 680 to US 50 & east past Tracy to Manteca cutoff & thence on Calif 120 & later Calif 108 to a point  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles W. of Sonora Pass where I camped beside a stream. The trip within the mtns was largely after dusk but it was apparent that I passed through some beautiful canyons.

Aug 15

Sonora Pass to Leavitt Lake & vicinity, Mono Co. (also Tuolumne Co.)

Drove back west to Gardnerville to buy gas & to see the scenery I missed last night. Then returned east over Sonora Pass and down to Leavitt Creek road where I turned up (south) 3 miles to Leavitt Lake (~~9600~~ 9600 ft.). Leavitt Lake is near timberline and has clumps of White-bark Pine up to 45 ft high on the NE corner. Smaller trees occur in places on the other sides of the lake, but the basin is largely treeless & open. A cirque of cliffs rim the mtns rising from the south end of the lake. A large snow patch (200-300 ft across) lies at the base. Many other smaller snowpatches occur on the cliffs. The soil around the lake is dry & gravelly. Eriogonum sp. (yellow) is the dominant flowering plant currently in bloom. Others in bloom include Mtn Pennyroyal (Monardella odoratissima), Mule Ears (Wyethia mollis), a red Paintbrush (Castilleja sp), & a yellow small unidentified Composite. Blue Flax (Linum lewisii) occurs in a few places. A few blue lupines are still in bloom but most have gone to seed. A palmately leaved Potentilla ~~is~~ is also a dominant plant but has gone to seed. Much of the shoreline & creek bed are lined with 2 ft high willow bushes. There are some Lodgepole Pines along the 1 mile side road to



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970

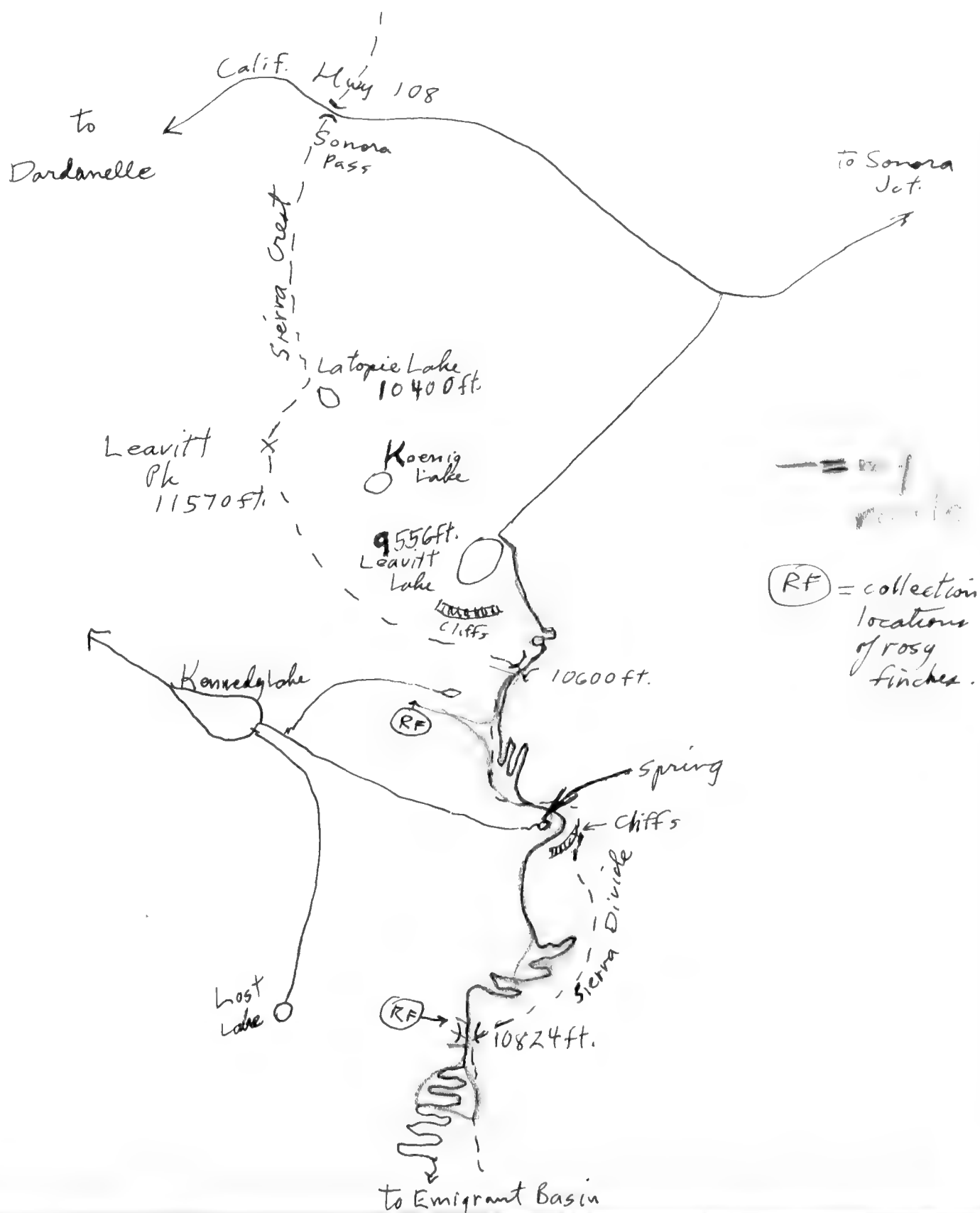
Aug 15.

Sonora Pass to Leavitt Lake & vic.

Koenig Lake (9600 ft.) &amp; doubtless they occur elsewhere too.

Birds seen around Leavitt Lake include: Wilson Warbler + Lutescent Warbler in the willows, Mtn Chickadee, Pine Siskin, Oregon Junco, WC. Sparrow, Robin, <sup>Mtn Bluebird</sup> & Chipping Sparrow. Clarks Nutcracker was seen just above this. I looked for rosy finches just above the lake near the snow & cliffs & found none.

At noon I walked an old road south up over an unnamed pass (10600 ft.) & into the Emigrant Basin Primitive Area.







## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970

Aug 15

Sonora Pass to Leavitt Lake & vic.


At 1:20 PM I collected one of 3 or 4 Juvenile rosy finches feeding at the base of a steep snowbank facing north & overlooking a small lake which drains west into Kennedy Creek. It was in molt (breast, femur, legs, back [dorsal & rump, not neck], & marginal coverts). There small antlerless mule deer were seen on top this ridge. A Sparrow Hawk flew over several times. Mtn. Bluebirds were common. (9600 ft.)

I walked cross country down to a saddle & to a spring. All of the land I'd been over was well drained, dry, rocky volcanic rock. Vegetation was somewhat similar to that at Leavitt Lake. Lupine was still in bloom. Also a Geum rossi looking plant (but not G. r.). Also what is probably a species of Chaenactis. 50 to 75% of the ground was exposed rocky soil. But now at the spring things were different. This was a real oasis with plenty of cold water running 1 inch deep & 5 to 10 ft wide. Elephant Heads (Pedicularis groenlandica), Mimulus implexus, Erigeron sp., Willowweed (Epilobium sp.), a dwarf willow, Paintbrush, & a Buttercup grew in profusion. In some nearby White-bark Pine were Audubons Warblers & Clarks Nutcrackers. East of the spring was a cirque of cliffs from which it drained. I didn't explore this. I followed the road on up another dish out cirque that extended to a higher elevation ~~10824~~ (10824 ft) but lacked cliffs. There were many large snow banks here & I explored the area carefully. I saw one Rosy Finch above me (upslope) & many Hummingbirds. At the top of the peak I saw a Falcon at a distance, several Horned Larks, & several Mtn. Bluebirds, & a small (15 ±)



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970Aug. 15 Sonora Pass to Leavitt Lake & vtc.

Flock of Rosy Finches. Most of the Rosy Finches were <sup>(collected one)</sup> Juvs, but I saw & collected one adult. Both were in molt. The west side of this peak has steep cliffs & the birds seemed to prefer this area. A Pika was heard & numerous chipmunks seen. Oxyria digyna & a Phacelia (flowers dried up but surely were white & in good sized fiddlenecks, leaves ) were common.

Returned to Leavitt Lake & camped.

Aug 16- Leavitt Lake, Koenig Lake

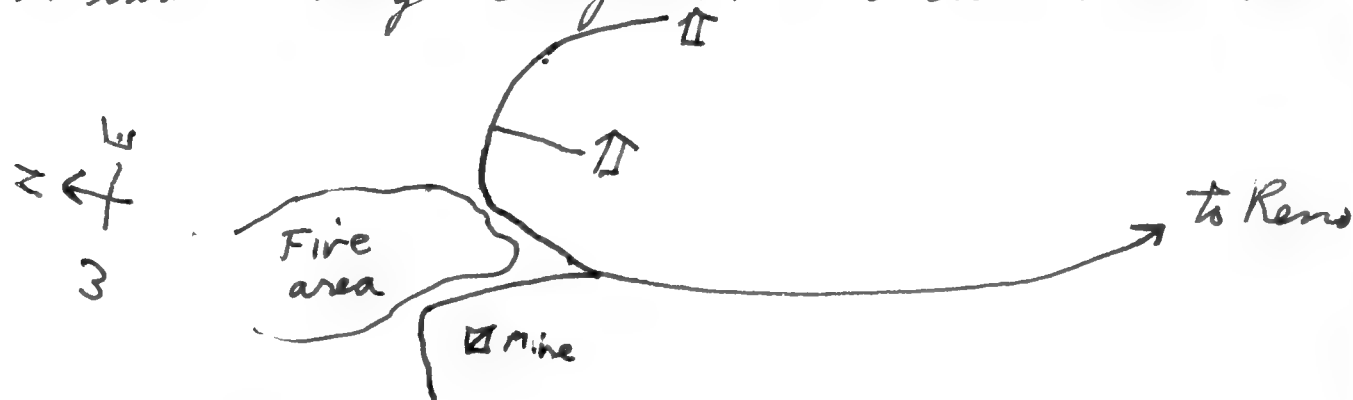
Hiked over to Koenig Lake & around it & into the cirque above it to the south or ssw. The stream leading into this cirque is lined with a dense slimy border of Mimulus implexus. Within the mimulus were scattered plants of Claytonia (Montia) nevadensis. Dry slopes leading down to the lake were covered with Moradella odoratissima & Erigeron & other species. Nearer the lake (not lakeside) were a couple spectacular patches of Rose Epilobium (Rock Fringe - Epilobium obcordatum). Along the lake & some cold stream margins there are high densities of Mtn yellow-legged Frogs (Rana muscosa) which jump into the water in one or two hops as you approach. Thus there may be as many as 50 hopping toward the water in the 3 to 4 yards directly in front of me. They are easy to catch once they enter the water. I can submerge my hand & slowly move it toward them & envelope them without their moving!



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970Oct. 14 Berkeley to Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co., Nevada and return

Left Berkeley a little before noon & arrived on top Peavine Mtn at upper mine shaft at 3:50 PM to watch for rosy finches. Threw large numbers of rocks down shaft & nothing happened, suggesting there are no birds inside. Air temp at 4:10 PM with max Min. Thermometers upright on ground on shaded side of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ft. sagebrush:  $67.5^{\circ}\text{F}$ . No snow on Peavine Mtn or on Donner Pass. Calif. has been very hot & dry this fall & has had an exceptional problem with fires. All National Forests south from Tahoe are closed to camping & to travel except on major state & federal Hwy's. Apparently the same dry conditions prevail here on Peavine because signs warning of extreme fire danger are posted all along the dirt road to the peak & the short spur road to the shaft is marked "closed" due to fire danger. Furthermore recently a fire has burned a considerable area north of the shaft & the road to it and west down slope from the main road leading on up to the radio facilities. It extends west down slope at least into the large Douglas Firs. I cannot see below this.



a pink fire retardant was used on the fire and it is common around the shaft and down into the hole on



## Journal

R. E. Johnson  
1970

Oct. 5/4

Berkeley to Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co., Nevada & return  
east side

Downslope to the east the aspen have turned yellow. Rabbit brush is in bloom along the road up. A chipmunk chirped from the mine tailings when I arrived and later one appeared to enter the shaft. A Calif. Jay flew over the shaft at 5:10 PM.

There is a storm over the Sierras that let a few drops loose as I passed through Truckee earlier. Rain is expected in Reno tonight. Currently there is a build up of black clouds ~~west~~<sup>east</sup> of Peavine Mtn & perhaps some rain there. There are also signs of rain to the west. But overhead it is clear with an occasional passing white cloud.

I waited until 6 PM to see if rosy finches would enter the shaft, then I again sent a barrage of rocks down the shaft for 10 minutes & again no response. Temp at 6:10 PM was 58°F. A 10-15 mph wind from the wnw has been blowing since shortly after I arrived.

Sunset - red behind haze at crest of Sierras at 6:30 - 6:40 PM.

Temp at 7:10 PM is 55°F

I leave at 7:15 PM - too dark to see RF's if they do yet arrive, but they have never been observed to arrive at any shaft this late. I checked the shaft with a 4 cell flash light & with rocks before I left. No birds using the shaft.





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970

Oct. 5<sup>14</sup> Berkeley to Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co., <sup>Nevada</sup> ~~Colorado~~ & return

Drove to lower shaft & found no rosy finches at 8 PM. Temp at 8:10 PM = 66° F.

Drove back to Berkeley via Interstate Hwy 80, with a side trip to Squaw Valley to see when the ice rink reopens (Oct. 24). Arrived in Berkeley at midnight.



## Journal

RE. Johnson  
1970

Oct 30 Berkeley, Calif. to Peavine Mts, Nevada & vicinity.

Drove in UC station wagon via Interstate 80, starting in light rain after dark, accompanied by Katherine Bell. Visited upper mine shaft at midnight. There is a little snow on Peavine Mts above 7000 ft. Drifts reach several inches. Wind swept areas are clear of snow. Trace of snow covers ground the upper shaft. Temperature at midnight is  $34^{\circ}\text{F}$ . I was unable to raise any birds, <sup>very few</sup> with a strong flash light or by rocks.

Drove to the lower shaft. Temp at 1 AM was  $34^{\circ}\text{F}$ . No birds inside. Someone had ~~left~~<sup>left</sup> the track on the bottom of the shaft. The walls were blackened to the area sheltered of smoke.

Drove back toward Truckee & spent the night at Sagehen Creek.

Oct. 31 Sagehen Creek to Bodie, Calif.

Up late to catch up on sleep. Lunch with the Marshall Whites. Drove south via Interstate 80, MT. Rose Road, shore of Lake, then Carson City, the south on 395 through Bridgeport & up to Bodie. Checked 2 mineshafts had caught song finches at before. Both are on Bodie bluff area. The lower (southmost) smaller shaft contained no birds. The upper



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970

Oct. 31 Sagehen Creek to Bodie, Calif.  
shaft contained 1 rosy finch (leucurus) which  
was only aroused after perhaps 15 minutes  
of light plus a constant rain of large rocks.  
I continued this for some time after the  
1st bird appeared & found no others. The  
temp. at the lower shaft on our return trip  
down was 35° at 11:30 P.M. As we ascended  
to the Bodie Townsite we noticed the  
temp. decreased considerably. The temp. at  
the Bodie campsite at 12 midnight was 24°F.  
The minimum temp. in the front seat of the  
car overnight was 19°F. We slept in  
the back of the car.

Nov. 1 Bodie to Tioga Pass to Yosemite Valley, Calif.  
In the morning we saw 1 Cyanocephalus,  
1 Black-billed Magpie, 1 water bird, & 7  
Horned Larks at various times along  
the water flowing through the campground  
from a flowing water faucet.

We drove back to US 395 & south  
to top of Conway Summit, then up to  
Virginia Lakes briefly. Then south again  
on US 395 to Leavitt & up to Tioga  
Pass & parked & hiked to Gaylor Lakes  
to look for rosy finches & tundra.



RE Johnson  
1970

# Journal

30

Nov. 1

Bodie to Tioga Pass to Yosemite Valley, Calif.

Hike was approx from 1 to 5 P.M. Saw 5 ross finches in group feeding on tundra nw of upper Crayle Lake at about 10600 ft.

Katherine kept busy examining alpine plants. Many plants were still green, at least at their bases. Particularly a lupine was green throughout.

Back to car & couldn't get it started. Finally got help from Leevings. Drove to Leevings for dinner & back over Tioga Pass to Yosemite Valley to camp. The park service was capturing & marking bear, so I helped for an hour until 1 A.M.

Nov. 2

Yosemite Valley to Berkeley, Calif.

Took a few pictures of fall colors in the valley. Yosemite & Ribbon Falls completely dry. Drove back to Berkeley via Big Oak Flat Road & Truckee Redwood Grove. Arrived back in traffic ~~at~~ on Berkeley at 4:15 P.M.





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970

Nov. 8

Berkeley, Calif. to Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co., Nevada

Left Berkeley between 10:45 & 11:00 AM & drove Interstate 80 to Reno & from there drove to upper Peavine on Peavine Mtn. No snow on Peavine Rd or Interstate 80. There was  $\frac{1}{2}$  - 1 foot of snow near Castle Peaks area, (mostly fresh). On the upper 800 ft of Peavine Mtn there ~~are~~ patches of snow  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 inch deep, mostly on north facing slopes. There are a few patches near the upper shaft. The trip was exceptionally rapid & I arrived at 3:00 PM & drove to within 20 ft of the shaft. I walked immediately to the lip & saw one tephrocotis type perched only a short ways down. It flew up & landed on the lip & then returned down inside. Shortly it flew out & west to join a flock of 100 ross finches which circled twice west of the shaft & finally dipped down inside. Some but not most flew off again to the north. I started the car & backed it further away. About 10 ross finches ~~flew~~ immediately flew from the shaft. At 3:10 PM I again peered into the shaft & saw 2 ross finches (tephrocotis type) perched  $\frac{1}{2}$  way down & flying from perch to perch. They may have been others. The flock seen earlier contained many tephrocotis type birds, some appeared dark (atrata?) but the lighting was poor (dark clouds overhead). No littoralis type were



RE. Johnson  
1970

Journal

Nov. 8 Berkeley, Calif. To Peavine Mtn, Humboldt Co., Nevada.  
noted.

Wind is blowing from the west. The sky is completely overcast. Ceiling is apparently lower than Peavine to the west but is slightly above the peak top. Temp at ground level is  $37^{\circ}\text{F}$  at 3:45 PM. No rory finches visible from the lip of the shaft at that time. The snow is fresh & not left from a week ago.

Two rory finches flew into the shaft from the west at 4 PM. Clouds have now descended to cover the top of the pk but the mine shaft.

At 4:45 PM a bird flew south from the shaft or near it. It was rory finch size but that's all I could tell.

A large (long) earth hauling truck, which was met as I drove up the Peavine road, returned & passed the mine area & continued west on a new dirt road & then drove out again full at perhaps 4:40 PM. This is a new activity up here. There have been many pickup trucks & cars on the roads today.

By 5 PM it is dark enough that I could no longer see a rory finch enter or leave the shaft unless it dropped down from the lighter gray sky & was thus silhouetted. The temp is  $36^{\circ}\text{F}$ . I threw a few rocks down the



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970

Mon. 8

Berkeley, Calif. to Peavine Mtn, Inyo Co., Nevada  
shaft & shined the light down. One littoralis  
flew out & one lit inside the shaft & watched  
me on the air store. One typicalis had  
type left & another flew up & watched me  
from inside the shaft. There could easily  
be more birds in the shaft. I didn't attempt  
to disturb them. I left at 5:10 PM.

I next drove to the lower shaft  
(after buying gas) & arrived at 6:05 PM. There  
is no snow to the ground in hard. I was  
amazed to find 3 rosy finches in the  
shaft. Two flew out shortly after I shined  
the light down the shaft. The third was out  
of sight & only appeared after I threw many  
rocks down the shaft. Even ~~then~~ then it  
stayed deep in the shaft. It was a littoralis.  
The burn smell was not evident this  
week. The temp at 6:15 PM was 47°F  
at ground level. It is now dark out.

I hiked up Peavine Creek to the 2 mine shafts  
at the jct of 2 tributaries where I once found  
large #s of rosy finches. At 6:50 PM there  
were none in either shaft. Returned to car by  
7:10 PM.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970

Dec 11

Berkeley, Calif. to Peavine Mtn., Washoe Co., Nevada

Drove onto the freeway (Interstate 80) at the foot of University Ave. at 9:20 PM & drove over Donner Pass to Reno & then up the dirt road to the quarry below the lower mine shaft. Snow over Donner Pass & for many miles west was so deep as to block the view on this bright moonlit night. Near the lower shaft 2 jeeps were exploring all the dirt roads at 1:30 AM! Snow lay up to 15 inches deep on leeward slopes (e. facing) near the mineshaft. Mud puddles were frozen with a thin ( $\frac{1}{8}$  -  $\frac{1}{4}$ ") layer of ice. I chose not to try to drive all the way to the shaft due to mud puddles & potentially soft ground. I looked <sup>only</sup> briefly into the shaft so as not to disturb the rosy finches. One was perched less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  way down on the west wall. The others were well below the halfway point. I made no attempt to count them. No temperature taken. Camped at the quarry.

Dec. 12

Peavine Mtn., Washoe Co., Nevada

Alarm rang at 6:25 AM & already a trace of red on the eastern horizon. I moved quickly to the lower mine shaft but heard rosy finches. Flocks chirping in the sky at 6:30 AM while I was still near the car. I reached the shaft at 6:35 AM & ~~off~~ 30 rosy finches flushed from just inside the top of the shaft. At 6:40 AM 7 more left and at 6:42 AM 10 more left. All birds to this time flew east or east south east. At 6:45 AM





## Journal

R. E. Johnson  
1970

Dec 12.

Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co., Nevada

Twenty rosy finches left flying west, then circled east, then finally west again & flew out of sight. At 6:50 AM 20 more flew east south east from the shaft. No further birds left in 5 minutes so I examined the shaft & found it empty. After returning to the car (now parked on the dirt road running up the ridge <sup>(with barbed wire fence)</sup> just east of the mine shaft) I heard rosy finches occasionally. Temp at the car at 7:10 AM was 26°F. Low temp at Tahoe Keys last night according to radio was 12°F.

I drove around to the north side of Peavine Mtn via US 395 & tried going up to the summit. Snow drifts at the 1st ~~major~~ major bend in the dirt road near the old mine dumps prevented my going further. Vehicles had obviously gotten stuck at this point though at least one vehicle had made it ~~at~~ beyond here. I returned to Univ. of Nevada Library to write these notes & work on Colorimeter Graphs of Rosy Finch reflectance.

Returned to lower shaft at 2:10 PM. Clear skies & warm sun. Temp at ground level is 44°F in sun <sup>at 2:40 PM</sup>. Much cooler in shade. Snow on north facing slope above shaft around curl-leaf Mahogany bushes. A flock of 10-15 Gray Vireos worked their way west through Bitterbrush-Sagebrush on a sunny south slope. At 2:24 PM one rosy finch entered the shaft from the east. It could be heard chirping from above ~~before~~ for several seconds before it arrived. (The shaft was empty prior to this.) Temp in shade at approx 3 PM was 33°F.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970Dec. 12 Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co., Nevada

additional birds arrived as follows:

3 rosy finches	3:08 PM	
25-30 "	3:11	
1 "	3:12	
25-30 "	3:33	
3 leaves to SW	3:36	
1 enters	3:41	
10 "	3:45	
1 "	3:46	
2 "	3:48	← one Magpie flies <sup>north</sup> over shaft (at 40 ft elevation over ground) & calls.
3 out main entrance & reenters via side.	3:57	
<hr/> Total = 66-76 Rosy Finches		4:00 PM 32°F in shade
	4:15 PM	sunset on shaft, but it is still very light out. The sky is clear. Motorcycles are still climbing the ridges.
	4:27 PM	5 Bush Tits in Jeffrey Pine trees near shaft.
	4:30 PM	30°F at shaft area

Returned to car & shortly began hike to the 2 mine shafts on upper Peavine Creek (east of the lower shaft area) that lacked rosy finches on Nov. 8. I left the car at 5:05 PM & walked by sky light. I shined a flash light down the lower slanting shaft & immediately one rosy finch flew out. I next placed a mist net over the upper shaft & caught 4 of 5 rosy finches using that hole. Three of these were tephrocotis head type & one was ~~littoralis~~ littoralis.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970Dec. 12. Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co., Nevada

These were weighed as soon as I returned to the car. I rechecked the lower shaft & found no additional birds. If there were others than the one I saw first, they must have left while I was throwing rocks down the upper shaft (the shafts appear to converge & thus to transmit noise from one to the other).

I left the shafts for the car at 6:30 PM.

Dinner at Boomtown (all you can eat for \$1.75) & then ice skated at Squaw Valley on a full stomach. Ugh. Camped ~~at~~ near lower Peavine <sup>shaft.</sup> Sky clear.

Dec 13. Alarm kept stopping during night, thus I didn't get to the mine much earlier than yesterday & I had hoped to. I arrived at 6:~~30~~<sup>33</sup> AM under overcast skies. The sky to the east & west ~~was~~ was clear but a band of hazy clouds extended n-s along the east margin of the Sierras. I heard no rosy finches prior to my arrival at the shaft. Events thereafter:

20 rosy finches leave to ene 6:34 AM

25 " " e 6:39

25 " " e 6:40

25 " " ese 6:50

1 " " se 6:55

checked shaft - no birds remain 7:00

I noticed that before each exit of a group of birds, one or two would first come up to the <sup>west</sup> tip of the



## Journal

RE. Johnson  
1970

Dec 13

Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co., Nevada

shaft and look east toward the reddening sky. Then they would return down (perhaps not every time) & then a group (presumably including these "scouts") would emerge from the shaft amidst much chirping. The scout usually chirped at least once on his scouting tour.

I returned to the car at 7:20 AM (parked overnight on the <sup>barlow</sup> fence road & read the current ground temp ( $23^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) & overnight low ( $18^{\circ}\text{F}$ ).

Sunrise over the Virginia Mtns was at 7:21 AM at mine level, though the sun wouldn't hit the entrance itself at that time.

Next drove to Virginia City & Carson City in hopes of locating some rosy finch flocks but no luck. Returned to U of Nevada Library to write notes & etc.

Arrived at lower Peavine shaft at 2:20 PM. No rosy finches present as yet. Today is a much colder day than yesterday. The hazy clouds mentioned this morning spread to cover all the sky & to exclude the sun by 9 or 10 AM. The day has been dark & cool. There has been little wind at any time on this trip. Ground temp at 2:30 PM is  $31^{\circ}\text{F}$ . The radio says a little snow is falling on Donner Pass.

2:43 PM -	15 rosy finches arrive	} From se flying very high & chirping
2:44 PM -	25 " " "	





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970

Dec. 13

Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co., Nevada

2:45 PM - 1 rosy finch arrives

2:46 PM - 50 " "

2:47 25 " "

2:48 20 " leave

2:51 4 " circle several times &amp; dive into shaft.

A Shrike perched on a mahogany bush promptly followed them in! Suddenly 50-60 rosy finches burst from the shaft. I didn't see the shrike again. He may have been in the flock. I checked the shaft at 2:55 PM & saw some rosy finches low in the shaft including litt & tephro. No sign of the shrike. 4 Rosy Finches flew from the shaft but they returned after 2 minutes.

3:00 PM 26°F at ground level.

3:10 PM A flock of 50 (probably those who left at 2:51 PM) arrived & circled many times & finally dove in the shaft but shortly flew out again & circled some more & left by 3:14 PM. Periodically thereafter they could be heard at a distance. Then at 3:20 PM they returned & most dove into the shaft. Most that went in flew out immediately but I believe a few stayed in (more entered than left). At ~~3:22~~ 3:22, 3:23, 3:24, 3:27, 3:29, 3:29½, 3:30 & 3:35 until I believe all the birds were inside again.

3:47 Two Maggies fly over to the north of here & land on Jeffrey Pine tree tops. One rosy finch enters the shaft.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970

Dec. 13

Peavine Mtn, Washoe Co, Nevada

3:54 PM - 2 rosy finches dive into shaft at  
great speed.

3:47 PM 1 rosy finch flies over, <sup>chirping</sup> going north.

4:14 PM 1 rosy finch enters shaft, no chirping.

4:35 PM 28°F (ie warmer than earlier).



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1970

Dec. 25

Berkeley, Calif. To Lake Tahoe, Idaho

Started with late leaving on my trip to Edmonton, Alberta to see Catherine. Also hope to locate my friends at various points en route. It became dark when I reached Berkeley and a last little stop to city to see birds in Museum & so I did see many flocks of Horned Larks but none that I examined contained any samples. my friends. It became progressively colder as I crossed Nevada & reached approx.  $-15^{\circ}\text{F}$  in Lake & Walker. I picked up a mountainous type White-throated sparrow (Steve collected 143 S. 5th E., Mammoth, Montana. A friend of mine & mountain, Henry Reynolds, etc.) & we drove to Lake Tahoe & camped in the snow at  $-6^{\circ}\text{F}$ .

Dec. 26

Lake Tahoe, Id. to Butte, Montana

Drove slow to east outskirts of the town (from whence he would hike to Jackson, Wyo.) & then I went on to Butte, Montana where I ice skated in late afternoon & again in evening & spent the night at the Alps Hotel! During the trip I saw Snow Buntings (flock) on Monarch Pass (2-3 ft. of snow) and House Sparrows & Black-billed Magpies in Ennis (a location that often reports song-finches).

Dec 27

Butte, Montana to Edmonton, Alberta



## Journal

R E Johnson  
1970Dec 27 Butte, Montana To Edmonton, Alberta

A long drive over icy roads. The upland land was snow-covered for the entire trip. I paid little attention to birds except to stop at some ranches north of Butte to look for my finches (none). I did see a flock of Snow Buntings 5 mi. n. of Butte, Montana. Arrived in Edmonton at 11 PM. Katherine had arranged for me to stay in that townhouse apt while he is away to Europe.

Dec 28 - Edmonton, Alberta

Jan 12

Visited & visited Katherine. Jan started enough to freeze my toes & but reached an interesting date for my song finches. Watched the New Year's Day Bowl Game on TV. Saw very few birds in the area. There included one Blue Jay, many House Sparrows & R.B. Magpies & a flock of Starling Warblers. On Sunday at Lacombe Jan 11, I drove east of town a short ways & searched a number of ranches for my finches. Magpies & House Sparrows were common but that was all. Temps ran between 0° & -26° F except for 2 days of rain which iced everything. Emigrants are stolen.

Jan 13 Edmonton to Edson, Alberta

Left in afternoon & drove west toward Jasper. Searched several ranches and found 1 Prairie Redstart. Stopped at motel in Edson to warm my feet &





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1971

Jan 13

Edmonton, Alberta to Edson, Alberta

plug in my car. Temp dropped to - 31°F.

[See next page]



1. *Chlorophyll a* and *Chlorophyll b* were determined by the method of Arar and Collins (1971).

177

1771

Elmer A. Tilton to Susan K.

[illegible]

The first person mentioned suggested I contact them about people from outside of birds on the ground of White T. incubation.

Dr. E. E.

77 June 24th 1892

Wapkeese, Creek



## Journal

R.E. Johnson

1971

Jan 14

Edison, off to E. Golden, Pa.

(3) Bob Lister

1115 54TH Ave

Edmonton, Alberta

(1) Dr. Stuart Hamilton - bird - telephone

Saskatoon Sask

I checked the dump located ~~near~~ 2nd  
 mile back the highway toward Edmonton  
 found no signs of any species for  
 miles. I saw Sceloporus

Edison. Edison's house is  
~~near~~ along the road. I ~~checked~~ <sup>found</sup> ~~the~~  
 the road. About 1/2 mile south of  
 house on May 13 ~~the~~ there was a little  
 finding on a road back near the road.  
 They were going to ~~check~~ <sup>find</sup> just a few  
 to find. Even if there was no 1st year  
 slope they kept until ~~the~~ but find as  
 I took several pictures from my window.

Clouds were low & foggy when I was  
 I drove south in a series of other with  
 impossible. It was dark by the time I  
 reached Sinsinnot Mills

Tungus Golden was very D.T. at 4 PM,  
 the warmest Tungus I'd experienced in a  
 week!

One bull Moose captured at Sinsinnot Mills.









R.E. Johnson  
1970

Journal

Jan. 15 Golden To Vernon, B.C.

Naturalistic little houses, camp, etc.

Drove west to Penticton & saw some things in a large open field. A man there got me to a lady with many birdhouses & other houses were fixed in the woods on the west side road through Penticton. Found out she knew little about wild birds (as was her husband) but was good about the way had present when I was there was a lot of House Wren etc. She got a lot of birds but couldn't name any & point them out on my bird notes.

At Penticton there is another group of houses with at least a dozen houses. I saw one very finches at other ones. At one of them I suspected the capture of the house for collecting birds with a flashlight (more). The houses and things had dozens of small sparrows until about two days ago & they had moved in the house (mostly English Sparrows). (It was more dark)

I drove on north to Vernon & stopped at the library. A man in the museum part of the city (Mr. Shepherd) drove to the local Ornithological Club & contacted the local bird expert (bird ornithology in night school) Mr. Grant. Grant had seen no song finches in this area this winter. However, he has been here for years (50 years old man's lifetime interest) & has seen them



1. *Leptocarpus*

RE. Johnson  
1470

Jan 15

Cashier, To Kinnaman, Ill.

many times. He says there is no one as  
intelligent as him. They are much more  
than knowledge & power. They are  
than in the character of the very person  
because of the fact that they are not  
in a word. The only way to find out  
about them is to

For it has also a number of specimens (some with white) and some brownish but it is very rare. The year also it is on 6 specimens on the same.

6. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ledger - Oct. 28, 1947 - Today collected about 45 m. n. of Gallinuley. Found that of 30 which were present, 10 were

Ex. 27 Oct 15, 1901. General, CC.  
From Trade of H.

(3-6) = 2 ♀ + 2 ♂ ADT. Nov. 9, 1950. Monte  
Crab (a town 12 m. e. of Kanihara).

He has many more species than. He only  
has 1 ♂ & 1 ♀ left in his collection  
now.

He suggested I contact S. R. [unclear] [unclear]  
(phone 412-4657) in [unclear] for information  
on the lower Okanagan Valley where a visit from  
Roxys is more convenient.

Data from nine *Chionochloa* counts at Herson



RE Johnson  
1970

Jan 15

# Journal

## Gellon, B.C. to Vernon, B.C.

are summarized below - taken from the ~~field notes~~  
 Notebook - since all were kept in the same manner.

This doesn't differ from data in Commonwealth Field Notes.

		<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>
1451	Dec. 11	0	0	16"	16"
1452	28	0	7	15"	2"
1453	20	0	0	10"	1-5"
1454	11	2	0	10"	1"
1455	20	15	—	10"	16"
1456	29	0	—	10"	2-4"
1457	22	0	0	10"	<del>10"</del>
1458	25	0	0	10"	1-2"
1459	20	0	—	10"	0

I was told by some people to flower  
 and to live in Vernon & there is a lot of  
 birds as a result of the war.

Jan 16

## Vernon, B.C. to Ennis, Washington

Camped last night at Silver Star. This area about  
 15 mi. ne of town in the mountains. Spent the  
 bulk of the daylight hours looking for any perches  
 between Vernon & Kelowna, B.C. I found none.

at Silver Star I saw 2 Kawans, 2 Stellar  
Jays, 4 Canada Jays, & about 15 Crowns Finches.

(at Colletts Creek Ranch, <sup>10-11 AM</sup> about 3 mi. e. of Vernon  
 on May 6) I saw 9 Mourning Doves, 200 Mallards,  
 several Pipits, a Sparrow Hawk. The crowns  
 said a Pileated Woodpecker is resident also. They



## Journal

RE Johnson

1971

Jan 16

Vernon, BC to Okanagan, Wash.

also met McWining River freeze & ice during the cold spells. The birds are getting apparently well fed, etc, but apparently can't take cold temps.

I drove west of Vernon to the Okanagan landing area & stopped at various points.

at F.C. Marshall's place I saw 1 English Sparrow & some Tree Toads.

I was told Whowings were present on Jan 15.

A Northern Shrike was on phone wire along the road.

At the (B) Ranch I saw 15 22 Leggers & 2 Phasants.

At Vernon Marina - 2000-3000 Coots &

1 Song Sparrow. I saw a Chimney Swift but could get close enough to identify it. The lake (Okanagan) was not frozen and except for the margins of bays.

I got stuck in snow & got the help of Mrs. J. Corner in towing me free. Had lunch in her house & with her binoculars saw 8 Canada Geese, 11 Mallards, 1 ♀ Mallard x Black Duck hybrid, 1 Bald Eagle, 1 Belted Kingfisher, 3 Goldfinches, 10 Redheads, & 2 Red-shafted Flickers.

At the Eldorado Ranch so of Winfield at 3:15 PM (sky rather dark by cloudlet low sun) I saw many English Sparrows using the barns &





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1971

Jan. 16

Vernon, BC to Omineca, Wash

preparing to roost. Mourning Doves were also present on roof tops.

The ground has been impassable from Edmonton to Omineca. Tracks were almost on the plains, but were lost of the divide & progressively became more difficult as I went west & then south. Tracks from Vernon with some barely below freezing to the foot rarely go extremely low (to -20°F). Most common low might be 0°F, that being very low.

Visited & had dinner with the Cummings in Pentteton. They summarized their Christmas count data on very few as follows.

1957	1	* = couldn't locate their
58	380	Christmas count data
59	*	for that year
1960	0	
61	0	
62	0	
63	*	
64	*	
65	*	
66	45	
67	100	
68	125	
69	0	
70	0	



## Journal

RE Johnson  
1971

Jan. 16

Vernon, BC To Carriak, Wash

They have seen no song finches this winter. Where they usually see them is at the foot of west bank where the road to their house (to the lake on west bank) starts up from the main highway on the north edge of town. They are usually on road cuts & gravel & clay banks (the road is widening and being snowed out). They saw a flock of 100 over west town at 1400 ft. Jan 7, 1970.

That year was unusual: the temp on Jan 7 was 55°F. 21°F. No information as to if finches were present.

On Aug 4, 1956 Mr. Cummings took a picture of a juv. Rose Finch at 5500 ft. on Comford Mtn in the Cathedral Lake area (Chimney Cr.) He would have shot one if he saw one there.

His boys are pretty sure a nearby Townsendist, Abe Brown (located 4 mi. S. of Victoria Lake on Hwy 97) ~~stuffed~~ stuffed a juv. Rose Finch collected from the Chiricahua area.

They told me of 3 local alpine areas.

① Apex Mtn. 7372 ft. on Pentecost Quad.

Rd west from Pentecost up ridge, then Shatford Creek to Apex Sh. area (on Baconfield Mtn).

Douglas Lighten, in Aug 1969, saw one Rose Finch on top. W.T. Marmey are also present.

② Mt. Baert & Sheep Rock north of Apex Mtn



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1971

Jan 16

Vernon, BC to Omak, Wash.

(3) Baldy Mtn, 7550 ft., due west of Okanogan on Plintien Road. Rd to top, 2) goe Hwy located to south to approach to Rouse Creek, pass east of mtn & around to the area on north side of mtn.

(See also letter to me from McCannings on Jan 25, 71)

Jan 17

Omak, Wash to Klamath Falls, Oregon

And snow fell last night & now all the roads are very icy all the way to Klamath Falls. However ground fog covered the most of eastern Oregon.

At the jct. of US 97 & Wash 17 I saw RT Pheasant & R.S. Flicker. Between Paterson & Wenatchee many Chickadees were seen on the road. Near Entiat there were 1000's of Coots on the Columbia River, also 10 Canada Geese. Magpies & English Sparrows were common. Crows were seen at a road hill south of Wenatchee (actually on the north side on US 2 before I turned south on 97 again). Snow had formed 100% ground cover until Ellensburg. Thereafter it was patchy & less deep. The temp was warmer. A Blue Heron was seen flying between Ellensburg & Yakima.

I ice skated in Yakima & drove on after dark.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1971

Jun 18

Klamath Falls, Oregon to Berkeley, Calif.

The lake (Klamath) is mostly frozen over. Some snow on ground. Raining. I drove SE via Oregon Hwy 397 to Calif Hwy 139, then E. on Calif Hwy 299 to Alturas, then south via US 395 to Reno & then to Berkeley via Interstate 80.

At Porey, Modoc Co, I saw 50 Horn Larks in Juniper Sage country. Also a Red-tailed Hawk. The ground was partially covered by melting snow but there was much wet soggy bare ground.

At ~~Canby~~ Canby, Modoc Co, I saw one Track Hawk fly down from a telephone pole & pick up something <sup>small insect</sup> in the grass & fly across the Hwy & land on another pole with it.

At Likely, Modoc Co, I drove along a short paved road to a large ranch where I saw 20 English Sparrows, 8 Starlings, & 2 House Blackbirds.

The Hwy (395) was flooded in many places. Bridges were out on a number of major county roads.

I stopped at Perrine Mtn lower shaft & found no more than 10 song finches in the shaft at 4 PM. No additional birds arrived thereafter. Sunset was 4:45 PM. Temp at 5 PM was 48°F. There had been a deep snowfall





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1971

Jan 18

Klamath Falls, Oregon to Berkeley, Calif.

on Jan 11-12 approx 8 inches than since  
then. Now the ground was very wet & muddy.  
Sky clear. Still.

I collected 2 song finches (1 littoralis &  
1 tephrocotis).

Shated at Squaw Valley.

The littoralis was skinned. The tephrocotis was too  
badly mutilated by the shot. It was a ♂ 1x1mm testes.

WT. 24.5 grams



## Journal

1971  
RE Johnson

March 23

Pearline Mtn, Alameda Co. Nevada

Stopped at lower mine shaft at approx. 6 PM on a trip ~~to~~ whose main purpose was a job interview at South Lake Tahoe. At 6 PM there were 30 ~~many~~ finches in the shaft waiting. One bird entered the shaft at 6:00 PM & another at 6:05 PM. I left at 6:10 PM while it was still quite light & more birds may have arrived later. Sunset occurred before I returned. There were some snow anywhere around the shaft or on the NE slope of the hill (the usual place), except for one 14 x 8 ft patch inside the east entrance hole. All rory finches appeared to be of the tephrocitta type & none were black.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1971

April 2

Eagle Lake, Lawrence, Calif.

Drove from Berkeley to Sacramento about 6 hours. Had job interview with the forest service. Then drove around Eagle Lake before dark. Noted the following bird species near Spaulding's.

Western Grebe, Snowbird, Belted Gull, Song sp., Coat, Killdeer, Lake sp., Horned Lark, Pendular Lark, R.S. Flicker, & Clark's Goldfinch.

off

Drove to Reno & returned Mtn after dark. about 30 very flashes (mostly tephra land type, perhaps one little) in the lower main shift.

April 3

Eagle Lake, Lawrence, Calif.

After minor car repairs in Reno I returned to Eagle Lake to take of Tom's nest the next.

The following species were seen on Willow Creek Meadow east of the lake: Bufflehead, Redhead, Pintail, Shoveler, Cinnamon Teal, Canada Duck, Mallard, Canada Goose, Pied-billed Grebe, Western Gull, Killdeer, Greater Yellowlegs, Sparrow Hawk, Rock Wren, Mtn. Bluebird, Starling, Mountain Lark, Ruf. Blackbird, San Jo. Blackbird.

Along the northern half of Eagle Lake the following were seen: Pied-billed Grebe, Western Grebe, Cormorant sp?, Great Blue Heron, Snow Goose, Canada Duck, Pintail, Cinnamon Teal, Mallard, Bufflehead, Common Goldeneye,



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1971

April 3

Eagle Lake, Inyo Co., Calif.

Scaup sp., Common Merganser, American  
Widgeon, Greater Yellowlegs, Baldpate, Coot, Gulls,  
Bald Eagle, Horned Lark, Starling, Mourning,  
Red-shafted Flicker, Mtn Bluebird, Robin, Oregon  
Juncos, Many Blackbirds

On the trip from Bore to Susanville in  
the <sup>early</sup> afternoon I saw a pair of Leucis Woodpeckers  
copulating <sup>at a tree</sup> in an oak tree beside #45 345 near  
Honeylake. Copulation was in a usual avian manner  
of male landing on perched ♀'s back. There was  
much excited chatter accompanying this.  
Copulation in similar manner was seen  
between 2 Sparrow Hawks on the ~~cross~~ cross  
bar of a wooden power line pole. A  
Scrub Jay was also seen in this area.





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1971

June 11

Berkeley, Calif. To Saddlebag Lake, Mono Co., Calif.

Left Berkeley at 4:50 PM in heavy traffic & drove via Walnut Creek, Tracy & Manteca to Calif Hwy 120 & on to Yosemite Nat. Park, Tioga Pass & Saddlebag Lake. There is about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  feet of snow on the pass & much more in drifts built up by snow removal equipment. The last mile of the Saddlebag Lake road is flanked by snow with walls of snow up to 5 ft deep facing the road. It is only cleared 100 yds beyond the dam. Arrived at 10:30 PM

June 12

Tioga Lake & vicinity, Mono Co., Calif.

Two other ~~other~~ parties arrived during the night & the result was little sleep for me. <sup>They were very noisy, one arrived at 3 AM.</sup> I woke up feeling sick at 6 AM. Hiked around briefly in the vicinity of the dam, then drove to Elmer Lake where I thought I heard a rose finch but couldn't locate him. A Audubon Warbler was feeding on the surface of the ice 40 ft out from shore. Saddlebag, Elmer & Tioga Lakes are all 99% frozen. The early morning was beautiful but I was too sick to enjoy it. Skies were very clear & sunlight on snowy peaks rose out of the dimly lit cold foreground making beautiful contrasts. I drove to the start of the old Bennettville Rd near Tioga Lake & walked along the edges of snowbanks ~~and~~ from 8 till 10 AM and collected 7 rose finches (only 2 are males, I think). All were feeding right at the snow edge, none on the snow or on the meadow a few feet from snow. Oregon Juncos also fed along snow margins but worked a wider zone outward from the snow edge. W-C Sparrows also fed at snow margins on occasion. Other



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1971

June 12

Tioga Lake & vicinity, Mono Co., Calif. (cont.)

birds seen in the area: Clark Nutcracker, R.S. Flicker, Robin,  
Hermit Thrush, Hammond Flycatcher, Western Wood Pewee, Mtn  
Chickadee, Rock Wren (e. slopes of Taylor Pk), Mtn Bluebird,  
Calif. Gull (several over Tioga Lake)

At 11 AM I collected one Rosy Finch (#1042) ♂ & at  
 11:30 AM I collected another (♀ #1043) at the same place as  
 the others. Therefore in an area about 200 ft x 40 ft  
 I have found all<sup>(?)</sup> the rosy finches. I looked at  
 surrounding areas but saw no finches. This spot  
 has flat meadows & snow tapering to a thin edge. There  
 are no trees. Surrounding areas are often enclosed  
 partially in trees or the snow forms a 1 ft wall at  
 the snow-meadow edge. Some areas are steep. Others are very  
 wet, sometimes with water running through them. But  
 the rosy finch feeding area is dry except at the very border of  
 the snow.

The birds allowed close approach &  
 one could probably get too close for a 38 shell quite easily.  
 The birds clearly noticed my presence but continued to  
 feed without even hopping slowly away.

Trees were mostly less than 10 ft tall: Mt. Hemlock,  
 Lodgepole Pine.

One coyote, many yellow-bellied marmots, chipmunks, &  
ground squirrels were seen.

After lunch I collected 2 more rosy finches on the same  
 area & then hiked over to Bennettsville, then over Mine Creek  
 up the mtn slope a short ways (to the mine & the contouring north-



## Journal

R. E. Johnson  
1971

June 12

Tioga Lake + vicinity, Mono County, California

west) + nw almost to foot of Fantail Lake + then se again, mostly along the top of the high ridge separating Mine Creek from Lee Vining Creek, to Bennettville. In this circuit I saw only 2 rosy finches, these being together on a snow edge on the ridge east of Mine Creek. I came upon them unexpectedly + they flew nw out of view. Violet-green Swallows were fairly common along Mill Creek. A "pish" call in WB Pine Forest brought 1 Oregon Junco, 3 Mtn. Chickadees, 1 Audubon Warbler, + 2 Clark Nutcrackers.

Additional observations on rosy finch feeding. The snow surface surrounding the collecting area was almost devoid of insects. I sampled 10 areas 1 ft. square + found 8 had no insects + 2 had one each. The lack of insects may be related to the new heavy snow that fell recently. This was an unusually late + heavy snow. Therefore it is possible rosy finches usually feed on insects at this time but now must rely more on seeds.

By 10 AM my stomach + head aches were much improved but my legs felt tired + ached all day. Slept ~~at~~ near Saddlebag Lake. ~~When I went to bed~~ Skinned one bird before sleeping. Felt pretty good, but awoke often after midnight with aching legs. By 1:30 AM I had chills also. Couldn't sleep. Got up + drove all the way to Berkeley arriving about 6 AM. Slept till noon + then felt great!



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1971

June 29

Berkeley to Tioga Pass + vicinity, Calif

Left Berkeley at 4:30 PM and made a leisurely trip up the Big Oak Flat Rd to Tioga Pass. Drove over to Saddlebag Lake to evaluate snow conditions. The road around Saddlebag Lake is still closed by snow drifts, however the percent snow cover is down from 80% to 5%. The lake store is open & the lake is no longer frozen. Similarly Tioga Lake & Ellery Lake are not frozen & there is no snow along their shores.

I drove down toward LeeVining to Aspen Campground at 7400 ft & camped beside LeeVining Creek

June 30

Tioga Pass Vicinity

Birds seen at Aspen Campground: Bullock's Oriole, Stellar's Jay, House Wren, Wood Pewee, R.S. Flicker, Mt. Chickadee, Brewer's Blackbird & Robins (feeding  $\frac{1}{2}$  grown young in nest). Area is mostly aspen, but there are a few fir & lodgepole pine.

Drove to my collecting site <sup>of 2 wks ago</sup> near Tioga Lake. Saw no rosy finches. Birds present were Brewer Blackbird, W. Wood Pewee, Oregon Junco, & Calif. Gull. A few Phlox, Wallflowers & Red Heather were in bloom. The area is now 98% snow free.

Drove to Ellery Lake Dam & hiked up into the cirque to the south. There is much snow & many cliffs. I believe this is also where Wheeler found ~~the~~ several talus slope rosy finch nests published in Condor 30 $\pm$  years ago. I saw no sign of rosy finches until 10800 ft when two flew down toward me from above & then veered off & disappeared. Later





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1971

June 30

Tioga Pass & vicinity

I collected one from the top of a boulder surrounded by snow at 11,000 ft. I could hear & sometimes see rosy finches near the tops of the cliffs so I climbed out of the cirque onto Dana Plateau & ascended the top of the cliffs. The snow was still corniced along much of the cirque top. Once on the Plateau I saw many rosy finches. They flew back & forth from over the cliffs to the meadows on the plateau. Males often sat on a high boulder & "chinked". A female usually was nearby feeding on the meadow at a snow border. There were several large snow patches but the plateau occupies 2 sq. miles & snow covered less than 1% of it. Most of the "meadow" is fell field in nature - ie cushion plants spaced out with gravel &/or boulders between. Once I collected a ♀ rosy finch & her mate flew close to it from afar even though I was approaching rapidly. There was one patch of WB Pine Krumholtz. 15 rosy finches were collected on the Plateau & more could have been but I ran out of ammo & it started to hail soft round & with puff balls from some black black thunder clouds & I decided to leave. Other species on Dana Plateau:

Mtn Bluebird, Horned Lark, Yellow-bellied Marmot, Chipmunks, Ground Squirrel, & Pocket Gopher (abundant sub snow tunneling).

From the west summit of the Plateau one could see Tioga Pass, upper Gaylor Lake, Humbert Dome, part of Saddlebag Lake, Mt. Conness, Matterhorn??, Dana Glacier & Dana



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1971

June 30

Tioga Pass vicinity, Calif.

Lake, Mt. Lyell & Mt. McClure. From the east summit Mono Lake is visible.

I worked up in Leekining Creek below Ellery Lake, then drove to Leekining for gas & back to Big Bend Campground for the night.

July 1

Tioga Pass, Mono Co., to Berkeley, Calif.

Birds around Big Bend Campground (located  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles up Leekining Creek from Aspen Campground. Aspen still present but Fir, Ponderosa Pine, <sup>Lodgepole Pine,</sup> etc are now 70% of forest):

Olive-sided Flycatcher, Western Wood Pewee (carrying fine bark nesting material to nest of shredded bark strips in kink in limb of an aspen), House Wren, Robin, R.S. Flicker, Oregon Junco (nest with 4 eggs under rock in road bank facing sw. Brush above nest, forest across road), Green-tailed Towhee, Sparrow Hawk, MacGillivray's Warbler, Mtn Chickadee, Western Tanager (2 + 1 Pewee chased a Stellar Jay), & Stellar Jay.

Drove toward Tioga Pass & explored a bit. A short road (dirt) turns north up the Warren Fork of Leekining Creek. There I saw an Oregon Junco, Green-tailed Towhee & Sage Sparrow. At a roadcut just below Ellery Dam I saw 6 rosy finches! One male was sitting on the top of the cut above the road "chinking" as if a nest might be in the cut! I watched for 30 minutes but saw no nest. Rosy finches were continually



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1971

July 1

Tioga Pass, Mono Co. to Berkeley, Calif (cont.)

flying about & one landed on the rock wall of the large road pull out opposite the cut. This location is extremely low & hot for rosy finches (approx 9350 ft.). curl-leaf Mahogany lines the top of the cut & the birds occasionally landed in it. If there is a nest it should be evident in a couple weeks when young should be chirping vigorously.

Drove to Saddlebag Lake again. Many Calif Gulls, a singing Juv. Cassin Finch, Oregon Junco, & Mtn Bluebird.

The crowd is already pouring in for July 4 weekend. A good time to leave.

PS - Dusky Flycatchers heard at Eltery Lake at 10:30 AM & at Tuolumne Meadows at 2 PM.

July 15

Berkeley, to Tom's Place, Mono Co., Calif.

Left Berkeley at 5 PM & drove usual route (Manteca, Big Oak Flat, Tioga Pass) across Sierras & down to US 395, then south to Tom's Place at the top of the Sherwin Grade. I decided to camp partway down the grade (approx 6,000 ft.) toward Bishop for purposes of acclimation. These quick Sierra trips have been quite an unexpected strain. Since I had mononucleosis & find I get headaches at high altitude. On the mid June trip I got quite sick & had to return to Berkeley in the middle of the night. Thus on subsequent trips I've taken



## - Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1971

July 15

Berkeley to Tom's Place, Mono Co., Calif.

the trouble to camp lower than my daytime activities is an effort to acclimate & for recuperate. On this trip I got a headache just driving over Tioga Pass! So I decided to camp a 6000 ft to help restore normalcy.

July 16

Rock Creek, Inyo County, Calif.

Drove up Rock Creek from Tom's Place & parked at road's end. Then hiked up the trail to the head of the valley (see Mt. Abbot & Mt. Tom 15 min. topo maps) to Morgan Pass. The trail is amazingly level & easy. only 900 ft. climb <sup>above road's end</sup> to reach the pass. Most of the valley is just below timberline & I collected two rosy finches in a small dry trail-side meadow near the cabin at Heart Lake which is only a mile or so from the road. I saw several rosy finches at Chickenfoot Lake along the snowbank above the east shore. One other flew over me on the west shore. Morgan Pass is the only point along the trail that could be considered fully alpine. [One rosy finch flew over at while I ate lunch.] As I discovered later the only real extensive alpine occurs further south at the head of the canyon (no trails) above Gem Lake. Birds <sup>& mammals</sup> seen in route to Morgan Pass were: at Road's end: Clark Nutcracker, Wilson Warbler, Robin, W.C. Sparrow; at Box Lake: Condor; between Box & Long Lakes: Yellow-bellied Marmot; at Long Lake: Hermit Thrush, W.C. Sparrow, & Clark Nutcracker; at Chickenfoot Lake: Calif. Gulls; at 1st trail to Gem Lake & to Morgan Pass: Cassin Finch, Oregon Junco, Robin.

Two thunderstorms passed over the area in the





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1971

July 16

Rock Creek, Inyo County, California

afternoon, both soaking me. One occurred as I visited the Morgan Lakes. The other was much later at Dade Lake & vicinity where I was soaked to the skin. At Upper Morgan Lake I saw a Hermit Thrush, Calif. Gulls, Rock Wren, Robin, & 1 Rosy Finch which I collected. I returned west over Morgan Pass & hiked cross country toward the south into barren alpine country. I passed 3 small lakes before reaching Dade Lake (only 2 of these appear on the topo map). Dade lake was 70% covered with ice! Two rosy finches were seen & collected before reaching the lake. Many were seen at the lake, often feeding on the ice surface, but I could only collect two. Birds could not be ~~retrieved~~ retrieved if shot on the thin ice & thus had to be bypassed. It was by this time rather late (after 2pm) so I hiked down to Treasure Lakes & across to Gem Lake (where I saw a rosy finch in the timber west of the lake! as well as a rock wren, nutcracker, Oregon juncos, & hermit thrushes) & back to the trail & north to road end. I was exhausted.

All but one of the rosy finches collected were females! Rather odd. Where were the males? Normally you expect to see more males during this period when females are incubating.

Many flowers were in bloom. Especially prominent were Laborator Tea, Kalmia, Red Heather, & Yellow Columbine.

I returned down to nearly 4000ft near Bishop for the



## Journal

RE Johnson  
1971July 16 Rock Creek, Inyo County, Calif.

night. I had started the day feeling sluggish & with a headache but by the time I got to Dade Lake in late afternoon I was feeling better! Peculiar to feel best after exertion & being at the highest altitude of the day. Later when I reached the car I felt fine altitude wise but was generally worn out from a long day & being soaked twice.

July 17 Bishop, Inyo County to Berkeley, Calif.

It rained much of the night & on into the morning. I drove up the Pine Creek Rd through Kovana to the Pine Creek Tungsten Mine (Union Carbide) where the road is fenced off. Rds continue on to 11,600 ft but aren't open to the public. This is the creek that drains from the Morgan Lakes which I visited yesterday. The miners are on strike now like so many others across the country.

I returned to Tom's Place & Rock Creek Campground to wash up, & buy milk, etc and then drove on north up 395. Took a short side trip up to Connet Lake. Stopped in Lee Vining for a lub & oil change. Then drove toward Tioga Pass. (See next page)



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1971

July 17

Tioga Pass and vicinity, Mono County, Calif.

Stopped at the roadcut below Ellery Dam at 1 PM to see if I could locate a rosy finch nest. I had seen suspicious behavior on July 1 (see notes). I promptly located a Violet green Swallow nest in a blasting drill hole in the cut about 7 ft above the road. There are many other such holes but only this one is occupied. Each is 3 inches in diameter. The nest is more than a foot back in the hole and contains noisy young. The male (apparently) flies back & forth feeding in the immediate vicinity & enters the nest every 10 minutes or so to feed the young (much chirping). The female is on the nest most of the time when the male enters. Perhaps she is fed by him too. She doesn't leave when he does. However she was seen out feeding twice.

After a short period I located two rosy finch nests in the road cut. Both were 40-50 ft above the road & located under large overhangs. It was impossible to climb to either one but one nest apparently contained eggs, the other loud chirping young. Visits to the nest with young were recorded:

- 1:28 PM - ♀ feeds young (i.e. chirping) & leaves with fecal sac.
- 2:08 ♂ feeds yng & leaves with sac
- 2:15 ♀ feeds yng & leaves with sac.
- 2:16 adult (sex?) to nest & feeds yng. Exit not seen.
- 2:37 male to nest, feeds young & leaves with sac. ♀ leaves nest also! (∴ she may have entered at 2:16).
- 2:50 female leaves nest
- 3:34 adult (sex?) feeds yng & leaves with sac.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1971

July 17

Tioga Pass and vicinity, Mono County, Calif.

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## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1971

July 17

Bishop, Inyo Co., to Berkeley, Calif.

3:42 PM - male feeds yng + leaves (no sac).

at the other nest activity was much slower. ~~appeared~~ ~~that~~ The male occasionally visited the nest, remaining inside for several minutes + perhaps feeding an incubating ♀. There were no sounds of chirping yng. More than once the female left with him. Once it appeared the male remained in the nest for a long time (30 minutes +).

I had hoped to collect these birds but travel was heavy + sightseers occupied the pull out (Vista point) much of the time. I drove away + visited Saddlebag Lake + <sup>also</sup> hiked to road end past the Carnegie Transplant site on Slate Creek + then returned to the rosy finch nests in the road cut. It was now raining again. Surely I could ~~not~~ <sup>now</sup> collect the birds without interference. Ha! I gave up at 8 PM + drove back to Berkeley.

Aug 7  
~~July 18~~Slate Creek, Mono Co., Calif.

Parked at campground on Slate Creek just a ways off Saddlebag Lake Rd + hiked up creek into the lower edge of alpine, then circled south + up to Bighorn Lake + up around lake to a small lake high above head of Skelton Creek on south side of White Mtn (with Yosemite Park), then back past Bighorn Lake to Green Treble Lakes + to car. Collected a rosy finch north shore of Bighorn Lake feeding on meadow slope on my



R.E. Johnson  
1971

# Journal

aug. 7 Slate Creek, Mono Co., Calif.

way in (around 12 noon). Bird had buccal sacs full & a blood red brood patch which appeared to be losing its edematization. Later collected another ♀ higher up, also with brood patch.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1972

Jan 23

Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., Calif.

Sunday

First clear day after several days of light drizzle. 4-6 PM. My first waterbird outing in a year! Started at north end of park & worked down west shore arriving at south end after dark. Nothing too exciting found, but a very pleasant change of pace from their writing. Species list:

Snowy Egret - half dozen around edges

Red-throated Loon - one in winter plumage laying on narrow muddy edge of lake looking rather dead except for its head held above the

horizontal & turning more than 90° in each direction. (1st time I've seen this species at Aquatic Park).

Red-breasted Merganser - one of each sex swimming mid-lake.

Scaup - several hundred toward south end.

Common Goldeneye - approx. 20 ♀'s & 3 ♂'s

~~Canvasback~~ <sup>Canvasback</sup> - scattered individuals (1 ♀, rest ♂'s) - perhaps 15

Ruddy Duck - small groups of both sexes (mixed) throughout lake

Bufflehead - mostly females; perhaps 40 total

Pintail - 2 pairs

Mallard - 1 pair

Pied-billed Grebe - mostly north ~~half~~ of lake - 30

Horned Grebe - usually 2-4 together, not mixed with ~~Horned~~ <sup>Eared</sup> Grebe.

Eared Grebe " " " Horned Grebe

Coot - 100+ at south end

Bonaparte Gull - 2 winter plumage.

Willet - 5 mudflats toward south end

Killdeer - with Willets

Peeps - 70 on mudflats in tight group (after dark)

Amer. Avocet - 2 <sup>feeding</sup> in shallow water 30 ft out.



## Journal

RE. Johnson  
1972

Jan 26

Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., Calif.

Wednesday

7-9 AM, Drove down east side of lake observing at scattered points. One rower (racing rig) made several passes down the entire length of the lake starting at 8 AM. No other disturbance on the water. However one man insisted on befriending me & was hard to shake even when I drove to a new spot. Perhaps a Queen.

Species observed: Red-throated Loon - ~~100~~ 1

Pied-billed Grebe - 30

Horned Grebe - 3

Eared Grebe - 10

Snowy Egret - 10

American Egret - 1

Black-crowned Night Heron, 1 adult, 1 Imm.

Carrackback - 10

Common Goldeneye - 40

Ruddy Duck - 20

Bufflehead - 6

Lesser Scaup - 20

Mallard - 10

Pintail - 10 (150 in puddle at so. end)

Red-breasted Merganser - 10 (30 1/2)

Coot - 100

Avocet - 10

Killdeer - 10

Willet - 10

Peep Flock of 40 across lake

Ring-billed Gull





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1972

Jan 26

Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., Calif. (cont.)Calif. Gull

Bonaparte Gull - 3

Morning Dove - 1

Bush-tit - 2

Song Sparrow - 1

W.C. Sparrow - 5

Starling - 5

(1st Time for Aquatic Park)

Oregon Junco - 1

(1st Time ~~we~~ seen them at Aquatic Park)

Linnet - 20

Audubon Warbler - 1

(1st Time for Aquatic Park)

Chestnut-backed Chickadee - 2

" " "

Robin - 1

Brown Towhee - 20

Jan 30

Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., Calif.

<sup>Sunday</sup>  
5-6 PM. Clear skies. Many Sunday recreationers still present but no boats in the water. Water level very high (higher than on Jan 23 + 26). I probably missed a few species because I didn't reach the south end before darkness.

Black-crowned Night Heron - 1 ad, 1 Imm

Snowy Egret - 3

Horned Grebe - 1

Eared Grebe - 4

Pied-billed Grebe - 40

Red-throated Loon - 1

Ruddy Duck - 40

Lesser Scaup - 300

{ adult walking or stalking along  
shore of 1st lake to south of main lake  
in dark. Location was very exposed.  
They seem to hide during day. }



## Journal

RE Johnson  
1972

Jan 30

Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., Calif. (cont.)

Common Goldeneye - 30

Canvasback - 3

Bufflehead - 20

Pintail - 2 in so. end of main lake, many in 1st small lake to south.

Red-breasted Mergansers - 1 ♀

Coot - southern half of lake &amp; 1st small lake to south

Killdeer - 3 in flight

Avocet - southernmost lake only

Ring-billed Gull

House Finch - 1 ♀

Jan 31

Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., Calif.

6:45 AM to 1 PM. <sup>Monday</sup> Rather cold for Berkeley & clear. Mud puddles frozen until at least 9 AM! Initially worked my way down east shore from north to south. Eventually circled lake several times. No boats on lake. A number of early morning joggers present. Large #s of people & cars during lunch hour. Tide high. Met a fellow who said there had been large #s of Western Grebes but they disappeared about Jan 1. (Later I noticed there were still some in the bay across the Freeway but none in Aquatic Park). He also noted the increase in R.B. Mergansers, which I also noticed this morning. I've noticed a decrease in Horned & Eared Grebes over the past week. Today's total count is a personal best for me at the park - 45 species!

Horned Grebe - 1

Eared Grebe - 4



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1972Jan 31 Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., Calif.

Pied-billed Grebe

Red-necked Loon - 1

American Egret - 2+

Snowy Egret

Black-crowned Night Heron - many still standing along margins of lake  
hunting prey when I arrived at 6:45 AM. All were gone by 7:30 AM.

Double-crested Cormorant - 1

Mallard

Pintail

Common Goldeneye

Lesser Scaup

Bufflehead

Canvasback

Red-breasted Merganser - 20

Ruddy Duck

Coot

Dunlin

Least Sandpiper

Avocet

Killdeer

Herring Gull

Glaucous-winged Gull

Ring-billed Gull

Bonaparte Gull

Willet

Sparrow Hawk



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1972

Jan 31

Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., Calif.

Morning Dove

Anna Hummingbird - many centering around Eucalyptus tree in bloom

Kingfisher - 1

Red-shafted Flicker - 1

Black Phoebe - 1

Bush-tit

Chestnut-backed Chickadee - in Eucalyptus

Robin

Starling - many

Brewer Blackbird - many

Red-winged Blackbird - many

Meadowlark - 1

English Sparrow

Oregon Junco - 2 in Eucalyptus

Brown Towhee - many

House Finch - many (large # in Eucalyptus tree)

Song Sparrow

White-crowned Sparrow

Golden-crowned Sparrow

Goldfinch - sp? - 2 - Eucalyptus

In early morning they sang & buzzed around with no apart interaction. Toward noon, a few chases were seen & one dive with "pop" at bottom were seen. Males perched amazingly close together (ie 10-15 ft.).

One Blue gum Eucalyptus tree which is in abundant flower, amongst a cluster of others which are not, was the center of activity of a large number of birds including <sup>all</sup> the Goldfinches, Oregon Juncos, & Chickadees, & most of the Annas Hummers & House Finches seen. This same cluster is the principle daytime roost sight of the





## Journal

RE-Johnson  
1972

Jan 31

Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., Calif.

Black-crowned Night Herons. These trees are located atop a high earth embankment east of the eastshore road a short ways south of the last lake side building of the boat club & boat sales complex near the NE corner of the lake.

After 12:30 PM I drove south to Emeryville & returned along The San Francisco Bay to University Ave via the bay side road just west of the Freeway. Species noted in the bay:

Western Grebe

Surf Scoter

Canvasback

Ruddy Duck

Lesser Scaup

Sanderling

Feb. 19

Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., Calif.

Eared Grebe - 2

Pied-billed Grebe - 30

Black-crowned Night Heron - in Eucalyptus trees as on Jan 31

Green Heron <sup>one</sup> standing atop a submerged bush in lakelet next to radio <sup>station</sup>

American Egret - 1

Snowy Egret - 4

Common Goldeneye - 2 ♂, 15 ♀

Canvasback - 3

Mallard - 2 ♂

Pintail - exclusively in south lake - 30

Bufflehead - primarily in middle lake, but also in main lake - 20



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1972

Feb. 19

Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., Calif.

Red-breasted Merganser - 1♂, 1♀

Lesser Scaup } ~~out~~<sup>among</sup> many purple headed (or purple with some green)  
 Greater Scaup } one was seen that was totally green & quite unlike the others. I could not get it to fly.

Common Snipe  $\frac{3}{n}$  marshy area near railroad tracks

Willet - 8 (one with 2 of the snipe).

Greater Yellow Legs  $\frac{2}{n}$  south lake

Dunlin - south lake - 10

Least Sandpiper - 10 - middle lake

Avocet - 10 south lake

Killdeer

Calif Gull

Ring-billed Gull

Bonaparte Gull - 2 - south lake

Ruddy Duck

Coot - 40

Sparrow Hawk - 2

Mourning Dove

Anna Hummer - around flowering ~~Eucalyptus~~ Eucalyptus

Red-shafted Flicker - 1

Black Phoebe - 1

Chestnut-backed Chickadee - in Cypress on east side

Bush-tit

Brewer Blackbird

Red-winged Blackbird

Starling

Robin



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1972

Feb. 19

Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., Calif.

Linnet

Brown Towhee

W.C. Sparrow

Song Sparrow

Oregon Junco

Period of observation 11:30 AM - 4:30 PM. <sup>Saturday</sup> Many people in sail boats & racing (rowing). The total number of water birds was less than on other occasions, probably due to the boating activity. At midday land birds were also hard to find. After 3 PM land birds were more conspicuous. The sky was overcast all day until 3:30 PM when it cleared overhead & to the west. Temp rather warm compared to all previous visits this year. This was only partly due to time of day. The last two weeks have been distinctly warmer than the rest of the winter.

March 27

Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda, Calif.

Period of observation 4:10 PM - 6:20 PM. <sup>Monday</sup> Clear sky, cool, windy.

One boat with waterskier in water for about 1/2 hour. Very few birds anywhere. Coots & Pied-billed Grebes predominate. No Egrets, Sandpipers & few Ducks. Begun observation at north end & went counterclockwise around lake.

Pied-billed Grebe - 30

Black-crowned Night Heron - 1 Imm in Eucalyptus tree

Common Goldeneye 1 ♂, 12 ♀ in main lake;

Canvasback 1 ♀ (southernmost lake)



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1972

March 27 Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., Calif. (cont.)

Bufflehead 7 ♂, 6 ♀ (5 of these in southernmost lake)

Ruddy Duck 2 (southernmost lake)

Red-breasted Merganser - 2 ♀ in main lake & 1 ♀ in southernmost lake

Lesser Scaup - 3 ♂, 2 ♀ in southernmost lake, 1 ♂ in main lake.

Mallard 1 ♂ in main lake; 1 ♂, 1 ♀ in southernmost lake.

Black-bellied Plover - 1 winter plumage - southernmost lake.

Killdeer - 3

Ring-billed Gull - 2

Coot - 50 in main lake, 70 in middle lake.

Mourning Dove - 1

Bush-tit - 10 in oak trees near train tracks.

~~English Sparrow~~

Red-winged Blackbird - 50 in marsh near tracks.

Brewer Blackbird - 10

Robin - 10

House Finch - 30

Brown Towhee - 2

Golden-crowned Sparrow - 3

White-crowned Sparrow - 10

Song Sparrow - 4

March 28 Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., Calif.

Observed from 8:15 AM to 11:30 AM. <sup>Tuesday</sup> Clear, warm. Three speed boats pulling waterskiers taking turns racing up & down lake after 10:30 AM. Walked from N. to S down east side of lake & then explored the two smaller lakes at the south end. Made a brief examination of the west shore





## Journal

R. E. Johnson  
1972March 28 Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., Calif.

before leaving.

Pied-billed Grebe - 20

Black-crowned Night Heron - 3 Imma in Eucalyptus trees at 8:30 AM

Common Goldeneye - 15 ♀

Ruddy Duck - 2 in middle lake

Lesser Scaup - 1 in main lake, 4 in middle lake, 7 in south lake

Buttthead - 8 (in middle &amp; south lakes).

Red-breasted Mergansers - 4 ♀ (3 in main &amp; 1 in middle lake)

Mallard 1 ♂ in main lake, 1 pair in south lake

Killdeer

Willet - 1 at No. end of main lake, 6 on mudflat of so. lake.

Avocet - 3 - south lake (beginning to show breeding plumage)

Dunlin - 10 south lake (some black on bellies of several)

Least Sandpipers - 20 mudflats of so. lake

Black-bellied Plover - 1 (winter plumage) mudflats of so. lake

Dowitcher - 10 mudflats of so. lake

Common Snipe - 1 marsh between tracks & <sup>main</sup> lake

Ring-billed Gull - 20 mainly south lake

California Gull - 10 "

Herring Gull - 1 south lake

Bonaparte Gull - 3 south lake (black appearing on head.)

Coot - 60.

Sparrow Hawk - 1

Mourning Dove

Anna Hummingbird

Bush-tit - 2



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1972

March 28

Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., Calif.Chestnut-backed Chickadee - 2 heard along ~~se~~ shore of main lake

Starling - 2

Robin

English Sparrow

Brewer Blackbird - some <sup>♀</sup> carrying nest material

Red-winged Blackbird

House Finch

Brown Towhee

American Goldfinch - 20 in taller broadleaved trees of se shore  
of main lake.

White-crowned Sparrows -

Song Sparrows

April 9

Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., Calif.

Pied-billed Grebe - Main Lake - 8, Middle Lake 1

Common Goldeneye - Main Lake 3♀, Middle Lake 6♀

Bufflehead - Middle Lake 4♀, South Lake 2♀

Mallard - Main Lake 1♂, South Lake 1♂ (both on mud shores)

Ruddy Duck - Middle Lake 2♀

Lesser Scaup - Main Lake 1♂, South Lake 7♂, 1♀

Red-breasted Merganser - Middle Lake 1♀

Coot - Main Lake - 15, Middle Lake 20

Willet - Main Lake 1

Killdeer

Ring-billed Gull - South Lake - 3

Calf. Gull - South Lake - 1

Forster's Tern - Main Lake - 7; 6 of these are in breeding plumage



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1972

April 9

Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., Calif.

and one is in intermediate plumage, having only a few black feathers on the forehead & only a trace of red on the base of the bill.

Black-crowned Night Heron - in Eucalyptus trees. One Immature <sup>at 2 PM</sup> was found walking in downed Eucalyptus limbs, near the south end of the main lake just below the tracks. I approached to within 6 ft. & it didn't fly but ~~walked~~ <sup>walked</sup> rapidly away into the bushes. I suspected it was injured in some way but couldn't tell since its gait was of necessity jerky as it climbed over & under the limbs.

Mourning Dove

Anna Hummingbird - nest with 2 large young on a lower branch of a cypress tree beside the east lakeside road about midway down the main lake. Nest is 7 ft above ground (lawn). Female fed young at approx 10 AM.

Bush-Tit - in willows &amp; oaks near southeast corner of main lake

Starling

English Sparrow

Brewer Blackbird

Red-winged Blackbird

Robin

Brown Towhee

Linnet - many ♀'s carrying nest material

Common Goldfinch (Amer.) - willows below tracks

Song Sparrow

Golden-crowned Sparrow



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1972April 9 Berkeley Aquatic Park, Berkeley, Calif.

White-crowned sparrow

Swallow sp. — one flew from hole in bldg east of tracks.

Sunday

There were 2 periods of observation: 8:10-10:10 AM and 12:50-2:30 PM. The weather was clear & cool both times. Water-skiers, sail boats & a canoe were present starting at 9 AM. Very few birds on the main lake & also fewer than usual on the other 2 lakes. ~~On~~<sup>During</sup> the earlier period I worked down the east shore from north to south but did not investigate the west side or the south lake. On the second trip I examined the south & middle lakes & the wooded areas below the tracks near the SE corner of the main lake. I also drove the west road with very brief stops to examine all birds seen in the water (which were few). The Forster's Terns & the Swallow were the first of the year.

April 15 Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., Berkeley, Calif.

Saturday

5:15 PM to 6:30 PM, <sup>clear</sup>. A busy Sunday at the park.

Many speed boats & water skiers & few birds on the main lake. I drove south down the west side, then examined the middle & south lakes & then went north along the east side.

Pied-billed Grebe — 5 in Main Lake

Black-crowned Night Heron — 1 Imm. at outlet of south lake (5:45 PM)

Mallard — 1 ♂ — middle lake

Red-breasted Merganser — 1 ♀ — middle lake





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1972

April 15 Berkeley Aquatic Park, Berkeley, Alameda Co., California (cont.)

Bufflehead - 2 (pair) in Main Lake; 10 ♀, 2 ♂ in middle lake

Common Goldeneye - 1 ♀ in main lake, 2 ♀ in middle L.

Lesser Scaup - 1 ♂ in Main lake, 1 ♂ in south lake

Coot - 10 in Main Lake, 24 in Middle + 4 in south lake.

Killdeer - 1 at south lake

Black-bellied Plover - 1 at south lake. Has flecks of black beginning to appear on belly.

Dowitcher - 1 - south lake

Willet - 1 Main Lake, 1 south lake

Forsters Tern - 1 Main lake

Ring-billed Gull - 1 south lake

Anna Hummingbird - young still in nest described April 9.

Mourning Dove

Starling

Bush-tit

Sparrow Hawk

Brewer Blackbird

R.W Blackbird

Robin

Linnet

WC. Sparrow

Brown Towhee

Song Sparrow



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1972

April 1

south shore of Puddington Reservoir, west of Pomona, Los Angeles Co., Calif.

Clear &amp; warm. 2:30-5:00 PM. Many fisherman along shore &amp; hikers in hills.

Ruddy Duck

Song Sparrow

Pied-billed Grebe

Linnet

Mallard

Lawrence Goldfinch

Cinnamon Teal - 2 ♂

Brown Towhee

Baldpate - 2

Red-winged Blackbird

Killdeer - common

Least Sandpiper - 10

American Coot - 2. flew over

Coot

Sparrow Hawk

Calif. Quail - very common

Mourning Dove - common

Calif. Thrasher - 1

Cactus Wren - 1

Water Pipit - common along ~~now~~ dried mudflats now covered with  
low green herbs

Loggerhead Shrike - 1

Bullock's Oriole - 1

Savannah Sparrow - 1 with Pipits

Vesper Sparrow 1?

Horned Lark - heard twice

Mockingbird

Meadowlark

White-crowned Sparrow



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1972

April 28

Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., California

7:30 - 9:30 AM. <sup>Friday</sup> Clear skies. Boats on lake beginning at 8 AM. A motor powered floating algae mower went to work cleaning up the scum & weeds in the lake at 8:30 AM. (The place has begun to stink noticeably, apparently from the thick mats of "scum" in the lake which are located primarily along the sides of the lake). I drove completely around the lake clockwise twice (including 2 visits to the 2 south lakes). Never <sup>this year</sup> before, have so few ~~water~~ water & shore birds been seen. There were no ducks or grebes in the water anywhere (1 Mallard ♂ on land) & few gulls, killdeer & other shorebirds. Species seen:

Black-crowned Night Heron - 1 Imm, so. lake at 8:45 AM  
Killdeer

Semipalmated Plover - 2 so. lake, 1 mud at SW side of main <sup>lake</sup>

Dowitcher - 2, south lake.

Forsters Tern - 4

Ring-billed Gull - 1

Willet - 1, south lake

Mallard - one on mud point of island in Main Lake

Mourning Dove

Anna Hummingbird

Starling.

Bush-tit

English Sparrow

Red-winged Blackbird

Brewer Blackbird



R.E. Johnson  
1972

# Journal

April 28

Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., Calif.

Robin

American Goldfinch

Linnet - copulation observed

Song Sparrow

Brown Towhee

April 29

Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., Calif.

6:30-7:30 PM Saturday. Water skiers on lake until nearly dark (7:30 PM). Drove around lake counterclockwise starting at north end. Were it not dark I likely could have found 2 or 3 additional land birds (ie Bush Tit, Goldfinch, Anna Hummer), but definitely no other water birds.

Black-crowned Night Heron - 1 Immature, south lake

Green Heron - 1 Flew from <sup>NW</sup> shore across lake and into

Eucalyptus trees where BC Night Herons roost.

Mallard - 10, Main Lake

Killdeer - 5

Semipalmated Plover - 2 South Lake

Forsters Tern - 2

Red-billed Grebe - 1, Main Lake.

Mourning Dove

Starling.

Robin

Brewer Blackbird

Red-winged Blackbird

English Sparrow





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1972April 29 Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., California

Brown Towhee

Song Sparrow

White-crowned Sparrow

Linnet

April 30 Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., California

Today is first day on Daylight Saving Time.. 6-8:30 PM. <sup>Sunday.</sup>  
 clear. Many water skiers. Drove ~~down~~ down east shore starting  
 at ne corner, then visited 2 south lakes. Subsequently visited  
 sw part of main lake + revisited south lake. No birds in  
 middle lake today or on either of the 2 preceding visits.

Pied-billed Grebe - 2 Main Lake

Black-crowned Night Heron - 2 in Eucalyptus trees, 1 at So. Lake

American Egret - 1 on SW shore of Main Lake.

Mallard - 10<sup>+</sup> Main Lake

Killdeer - 2 Main Lake, 2 So. Lake

Semipalmated Plover 1 Main Lake, 2 south lake

Dowitcher - 2 south lake

Western Sandpipers - 15 Main Lake, 3 south lake

Forsters Tern - 5 Main Lake.

Ring-billed Gull.

Mourning Dove

Kingfisher - 1 south Lake

Bush-tit

Cliff Swallow - 1

Starling

Robin



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1972April 30 Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., Calif.

English Sparrow

Brewer Blackbird

Red-winged Blackbird

American Goldfinch

House Finch

Song Sparrow

Brown Towhee

May 2 Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., Calif.

8:30 - 11:00 AM, Tuesday, Clear. Two crews of rowers began to row back & forth over the south half of the main lake shortly after I arrived. I drove from north to south along the east shore & then examined the south & middle lakes followed by a quick trip up the west shore.

Pied-billed Grebe - 2 at north end of main lake

Black-crowned Night Heron - 2 <sup>Imma.</sup> in Eucalyptus trees

Mallard - 1 ♂ Main Lake

Killdeer

Semipalmated Plover - 2, south lake

Bonaparte Gull - 2 in breeding plumage - south lake

Forsters Tern - 4 Main Lake

Mourning Dove

Sparrow Hawk - 1 on wire over south lake

Kingfisher - 1 south lake

anna Hummingbird

Robin



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1972May 2 Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., Calif.

Bush-Tit

English Sparrow

Brown Towhee

House Finch

Western Tanager - 1 or in trees around crafts shop at  
se corner of main lake.

American Goldfinch

White-crowned Sparrow

Song Sparrow

Brewers Blackbird

Red-winged Blackbird

May 2 Berkeley Marina, Alameda Co., Calif.11 - 12:30 AM. Visited main piers, "Shorebird Area", Breakwaters  
between the 2 big fancy restaurants, etc.

Meadowlark

House Sparrow - common

Barn Swallow - common, nesting under piers

Mockingbird - 1

Red-winged Blackbird - 4

Starling - 2

Killdeer - 1

Song Sparrow - 1

Amer. Goldfinch - 1

Hoared Lark - 2

Ring-billed Gull

Western Gull



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1972

May 2

Berkeley Marina, Alameda Co., Calif.

Whimbrel - 1

Willet - 2

Black-bellied Plover - 1

Scaup ducks - 5

Savannah Sparrow - 1

Mourning Dove - 2

WC Sparrow - 1

The visit to the Marina was prompted by the desire to know what species were present that might occasionally spill over into Aquatic Park. Most of the species have been seen by me at one time or another at the park. Exceptions are Mockingbird, Horned Lark, Barn Swallow & Whimbrel. The Savannah Sparrow has only been seen once several years ago (1956) & the Meadowlark only occasionally in winter.





## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1972May 12 Berkeley, Calif. to White Wolf Jct, Yosemite Nat. Park, Calif.

Left Berkeley at about 5 PM <sup>with Barbara Barr</sup> & drove via US Hwy 50 & Calif Hwy 120 to the junction of 120 (Tioga Pass Rd) with the short spur road to White Wolf. The latter rd was closed & covered with large snow patches. A half dozen cars were parked at the junction. I parked nearby next to a small creek & camped. Large snow banks lined the road in most places.

May 13 White Wolf Jct. to Tioga Pass & vicinity, Yosemite Nat. Park, Calif.

Birds heard <sup>or seen</sup> in the forested area near White Wolf Jct in the morning were: Nuthatch sp?, Mtn. Chickadee, Robin, Wood Pewee, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Cassin Finch, Audubon Warbler, Williamson Sapsucker, Hammond Flycatcher & perhaps Ruby-crowned Kinglet (very distant). Drove on to ~~the~~ Olmsted view & noted Yellow-bellied Marmots were active & even begging from tourists. At Tenaya Lake we saw 40 Calif. Gulls in the water near shore, some being feed bread crumbs by tourists, & standing on the ice out in the lake. Some of those near shore were diving (sometimes bringing up garbage) by flying or leaping up out of the water slightly & then plunging their heads forward & down abruptly.

There appears to be less snow at Tuolumne meadows & above than at White Wolf and less than ~~the~~ last year in mid June! The road to Saddlebag Lake has not been ~~it~~ plowed yet. The store at Tuolumne Mdw is not open yet but Tioga Lodge is. In the late afternoon we examined the area just north of Tioga lake where I collected so many rose finches last year but



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1972

May 13

White Wolf Mt to Tioga Pass & vicinity, Yosemite Nat. Park, Calif.  
 we saw none. Much of the same ground that was exposed last year is exposed & moist (a good feeding area) this year. We saw a Coyote northwest of us below Gaylor Pk. We climbed up to the north west over rock & snow to a ridgetop high over (& sw of) Bennettville & then hiked sw up the ridge to the vicinity of the Great Sierra Mine (actually se of the remaining buildings) where I collected 3 rosy finches feeding at snow edges & singing from tops of low rock outcrops near these edges. Other birds seen in the course of the hike were Oregon Junco, White-crowned Sparrow, Audubon Warbler, and Clarke Nutcracker. Returned to Tuolumne Meadows Sierra Club Camp to spend the night.

May 14

Tuolumne Meadows, Yosemite Nat. Park via Sonora Pass to Berkeley, Calif.

Wandered around Soda Springs area near camp in the morning & noted the following birds: Killdeer, Brewer Blackbird (common), Yellow-headed Blackbird (one ♀), Red-winged Blackbird (one ♂), Robin (common), Violet Green Swallow, Audubon Warbler, Pine Siskin, Cassin Finch, Hammond Flycatcher (?), Calif Gull, Pine Grosbeak (pair), Oregon Junco, Crow, Stellar Jay, & Mtn Bluebird. Belding & Golden-mantle ground squirrels & chipmunks were also seen.

Drove east over Tioga Pass & down to Leeving for gas. Stopped briefly at Mono Lake & saw Killdeer.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1972

May 14

Tuolumne Meadows, Yosemite Nat. Park via Sonora Pass to Berkeley, Calif.

Calif. Gull, Red-winged Blackbird, Brewer Blackbird, Eared Grebe & Wilson Phalarope. Drove on north on US 395 through Bridgeport ~~to~~ to jct with Calif Hwy 108 over Sonora Pass, ~~to~~ thence west to Sonora Pass where we stopped ~~to~~ & hiked north to Sonora Peak.

Initially this involved only an easy walk over snow on a gently undulating ridge through timber & openings but the later half of the horizontal distance involves steeper climbing starting at the base of large ~~to~~ rock outcrops forming a huge castle formation. Barbara wasn't feeling up to snuff this afternoon so she waited at the base of the formation while I scrambled up through the rocks ~~to~~ passed 2 large natural arches (one 20 by 20 ft, the other 10 high & 20 ft wide) to the top of the summit ridge where I could see into the valley to the north (Wolf Creek). At this point I also heard one rosy finch down the north slope. I wasn't able to collect him, however, and I followed him to the west & lost him. I continued on to the summit, signed the register, and returned east along the ridge, again encountering a rosy finch in the same place but this time collecting him. Ran down the mountain (now sun setting) & encountered 3 rosy finches midway down through the castle! Also saw a Prairie Falcon. Near the summit ridge, which is fell field with gravel size rocks & widely spaced cushion plants (all dry), I saw a Horned Lark. Along the ridge back to ~~to~~ Sonora Pass saw a Greened-tailed Towhee in brush.



## Journal

R.E. Johnson  
1972

May 14 Tuolumne Meadows, Yosemite Nat. Park, ~~to~~ via Sonora Pass. to Berkeley, Calif.  
Drove west along Calif Hwy 108, took a brief side trip to see the new ice rink (small) at Long Barn, ~~then~~ ate dinner at Sonora & continued on to Berkeley, tired & red eyed from intense sun in day & night driving.

Noted that no Mallophaga were found on the birds collected on either day, either at time of capture ~~or~~ during & subsequent to capture.





RE. Johnson  
1972

# Journal

May 29 Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., Calif.

Very warm, clear. Memorial Day. Park crowded with people. Apparently waterskiing competition underway. I arrived at 5 PM & parked ~~at the~~ near the north end on the west side & walked around the lakes counter-clockwise. Species seen: Mourning Dove, Black-crowned Night Heron, Killdeer, Snowy Egret <sup>← so. lake</sup>, Mallard (pair & an albino on shore of main lake & pair on south lake), Forsters Terns, Anna Hummingbird (♂), Bush Tit, Robin, Brewer Blackbird, Red-winged Blackbird, English Sparrow, American Goldfinch, House Finch, Brown Towhee, Song Sparrow. Left at 7:45 PM.

June 4 Berkeley Aquatic Park, Alameda Co., Calif.

Warm, clear beautiful day. Fewer people & boats at the park than at anytime in past two months. Walked around lake in counterclockwise direction starting at north end. <sup>4-6:30 PM Sunday.</sup> Species seen: Black-crowned Night Heron (in Eucalyptus), Snowy Egret (1 in south lake), Mallard (pair & albino in main lake, pair in south), Forster's Tern, (4 in winter plumage, 1 breeding plumage), Calif Gull, Killdeer, Mourning Dove, Bush-tit, Barn Swallow, Starling, Robins (young of all sizes seen running about), House Sparrow, Brewer Blackbird, Red-winged Blackbird, House Finch (nest in cypress tree toward end of limb in foliage about 10 ft above ground), Brown Towhee, Song Sparrow, American Goldfinch.



















